



THE TIMES  
1785-1985

Tomorrow

Down on the farm  
Ways and means  
of England's  
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Wearing well  
Alessandra Ferri  
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The appeal of  
Gorbachov  
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## Portfolio

Over £20,000 of Times Portfolio competition prize money was won at the weekend. The weekly prize of £20,000 went to Mr Derek Boshier of Henfield, West Sussex, and the daily prize of £2,000 to Mr Alan Fulton, of Hythe, Southampton. Today another £2,000 can be won. Portfolio list, page 16; rules and how to play, information service, back page.

## Castro fails to incite debt revolt

Latin American leaders spurned an appeal by President Castro of Cuba to ignore their \$360 billion foreign debts, which he described as a cancer. Mexico's President said repudiation was out of the question, and Brazil's leader said the debt was not an ideological weapon. Page 6

## Where police rape and mug

Mexican police on the beat are also on the prowl. Locals and foreigners suffer alike as they mug, rob and rape, earning a reputation as the country's principal law-breakers with a complete inability to investigate crime. Page 6

## Design coup for Burton

Department store design will be the keynote now that the Burton Group has won its £570 million battle for Debenhams. House of Fraser, which fiercely contested the Burton bid, is likely to sell its Debenhams stake. Pages 2, 15

## Todd defiant

Mr Ron Todd, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union has made clear his total opposition to pre-strike ballots. Page 2

## Dole crackdown

The government is expected to increase the number of social security fraud investigators to discover dole claimants who are working. Back page

## JMB affair

Mr Thatcher has rejected Dr David Owen's call for a public inquiry into the Johnson Matthey Bankers affair. Page 2

## Festival curtains

The Kremlin survived the Moscow Youth Festival but many of the Western visitors had proved a strain. Page 4

## After the bomb

Forty years after the bomb was dropped on Japan, David Watts reports on Hiroshima's grim legacy. Page 6

## Leader, page 13

Letters: On IRA film, from Mr J. Evered, and others; dropped not charges, from Mr L. Theodor; ritual slaughter, from the Rev A. L. Birbeck, and Prebendar, R. H. Hill. Leading articles: Joining EMS; Welfare Payments; Features, pages 10-12. Cost of nuclear-free zone; Israel's new exodus; BT's watchdog left in the cold; the J. Paul Getty trust; is it getting its share? Pamela Stephenson lives on. Obituary, page 14. Sam Wooding, Mr George Ratcliffe, the Right Rev Robert Ridsdale. Classified, pages 22-24. Le crime de la croix, 22. University appointments, 23.

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# Blacks vote to strike in S Africa mines

Black miners in South Africa moved towards confrontation with their Government yesterday by giving notice of an indefinite strike at gold and coal mines from August 25.

The stoppage could practically halt gold output, which accounts for half of the country's export earnings, and seriously disrupt coal production. Page 15

A decision by the organisers to ban disabled South African athletes from future Stoke Mandeville paraplegic games was strongly attacked by Conservative MPs.

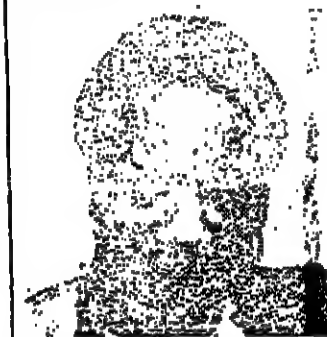
From Ray Kenaedy, Johannesburg

Black miners in South Africa voted yesterday for a head-on confrontation with the Government when they gave notice of a strike at gold and coal mines and gave three-day ultimatum for the lifting of the two-week state of emergency.

The union threatened to call a national strike halting all mining production if Mr P. W. Botha, the state president, pursued the threat to repatriate 1.5 million black migrant workers if economic sanctions are applied against South Africa.

The strike could have a crippling effect on the South African economy, which is already in its worst depression for 50 years and suffering from the falling Rand and the mounting threat of disinvestment and economic sanctions. While the direct effect of the strike on exports will be gradual, it will have immediate impact on business confidence, both home and internationally.

The National Union of Mineworkers set August 25 as the starting date for an indefinite strike at 18 gold mines and 11 collieries on which it is recognized.



Mr Ramaphosa, worried about employers' reaction

## MPs attack ban on disabled athletes

A team of disabled South African athletes flew home from Britain last night after hearing that they had been banned from the Stoke Mandeville paraplegic games because of their country's apartheid policies.

The 21 South Africans, including one black person, were said to be "very upset" by the decision and were the first to leave Stoke Mandeville last night after the closing ceremony of this year's event.

The ban, introduced by the council of the International Stoke Mandeville Games Federation, followed anti-apartheid demonstrations at last Monday's opening ceremony, attended by the Princess of Wales. Four countries also boycotted the games because of South African participation.

There was immediate condemnation of the move by conservative MPs. Mr Nicholas Winter, MP for Macclesfield, called it "absolutely despicable", while Mr John Carlisle, Tory MP for Luton North and secretary of the all-party British South Africa parliamentary group, said the

decision was "incredible weakness and appeasement".

Mr David Widdicombe, Labour MP for Walsall North, said: "It was the South Africans who first brought sport into politics and they most accept the consequences. The games council had decided that it was in the interests of the future of international paraplegic sports that South African teams be barred 'while present circumstances prevail'."

The action was taken with "great regret", but was seen as "vital" for the survival of the event.

Mr Marion Fourie, the South African team manager, commented: "The team is very upset. The motto of the international Stoke Mandeville games federation is 'sport, friendship and unity'."

"We feel it is a crack in the wall for this federation. The South Africans won 36 medals at last week's games, which were boycotted by teams from the United States, Canada, Zimbabwe and Trinidad."

The closeness of the margin can be attributed to the fact that Cram had to run the second half of the race without pace makers or serious challengers. Cram said after the race: "It was a very, very tough race."

Mr Michele Alboreto, of Italy, won the West German motor racing grand prix at Nürburgring to extend his lead over the Frenchman, Alain Prost, in the



The Queen Mother leaving church at Sandringham with the Queen and Princess Margaret

## Rail official questioned after crash

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

The head-on collision between two trains in southwest France on Saturday, which killed at least 35 people and left another 48 injured, may have been the result of human error.

Officials said that M Yves Salieus, the acting stationmaster at the little station of Assier at the time of the crash, had been held for about 24 hours for questioning in connection with the accident.

Meanwhile, the number of dead continued to rise yesterday as rescue workers toiled to extricate the engine of the Paris-Capdenac express from where it was embedded in the engine and first coach of the local Rodez to Brive train.

The accident occurred on a single-track station at Assier, a disused rural station between Brive and Assier.

M Salieus, aged 37, is understood to have given the order for the local train to proceed up the line from Assier without having first verified that the Paris express, running 14 minutes late, had passed.

According to media reports, M Salieus realized his error and tried to telephone up the line to the next station to halt the train. He received no reply.

On this stretch of single-track line, as on several in France, there is no automatic system for stopping trains between stations in an emergency.

At Paul Quilès, the Minister for Transport, who visited the scene, ordered an inquiry to report within 48 hours; he said the public had a right to know the reasons for this dramatic accident.

The express is understood to have been travelling at around 50mph when it hit the local train, the front coach of which caught fire on impact.

Witnesses described scenes of horror and confusion, with bodies flung out on impact hanging in trees and strewn about.

Continued on back page, col 5



Map showing the location of the crash site near Assier, France

## Cram breaks third world record

Steve Cram, from Larrow, who recently broke the 1,500 metres and mile world records, achieved his third record in 20 days when he ran the 2,000 metres in Budapest in 4 min 51.34 sec, just one hundredth of a second better than the time set by John Walker, of New Zealand, nine years ago.

The closeness of the margin can be attributed to the fact that Cram had to run the second half of the race without pace makers or serious challengers. Cram said after the race: "It was a very, very tough race."

Mr Michele Alboreto, of Italy, won the West German motor racing grand prix at Nürburgring to extend his lead over the Frenchman, Alain Prost, in the

quality, sawn-up steel from a pub owner.

Investigators soon found the shell of the tank in the shed behind the pub. The proprietor told the authorities he had acquired the tank for 24 bottles of vodka, with herring and pickles thrown in "as a gesture of comradeship".

Mr Filip said the fate of the pub owners and the Soviet soldiers was not known.

In the 1960s Mr Filip wrote several novels that angered the Czechoslovak authorities. In 1970 he was jailed, then freed after 15 months and later allowed to emigrate.

## Thatcher's thinking unclear, says BBC Ulster chief

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government needs to clarify its thinking over who is an elected politician and who is a terrorist in Northern Ireland, Mr James Hawthorne, BBC controller in Ulster said yesterday.

It could not rely on aphorisms such as "starving terrorists" which failed to describe the intricacies of the Northern Ireland problem, he said.

He defended the programme, *At the Edge of the Union* as "important", "very revealing" and one which "certainly does not sanitise terrorism". It deals in part with Mr Martin McGuinness, an elected Sinn Féin representative who also has convictions for IRA membership in the Republic of Ireland.

The Prime Minister, he said, "made the point very strongly that these people can air their views in the Northern Ireland Assembly, that they do not need to be on programmes". But she knew that Sinn Féin had refused to take up its seats in the assembly.

The same was true, however, of the moderate Social Democratic and Labour Party. "Is she saying by the same reasoning that we shouldn't allow John Hume and the SDLP on the air?" he asked.

His comments on the BBC's *World This Week*, came as Lady Faulkner, one of the BBC governors who decided to withdraw the Ulster programme, denied charges of double standards after it was disclosed that she had hosted a party to open a new radio

station in Northern Ireland to which Mr McGuinness was invited. "He is an elected representative of an officially constituted parliamentary party", she said. "As such he has a perfect right to attend a public or semi-public function." She had objected to the film as "domesticated, sanitized and a rather likeable sort of chap".

"The side of his character which is represented by the fact

that he advocated the use of the Armalite as well as the ballot box was not shown."

Meanwhile argument continued over how far the BBC had followed its own guidelines in making the programme. Mr Hawthorne said that "categorically nothing went wrong" and that the issue was in any case a red herring.

Some BBC governors, however, continued to say that failure to follow the guidelines was central to their decision against the programme, one describing Mr Hawthorne's comments as "quite extraordinary".

The BBC's board of management meets today with the director-general, Mr Alisdair Milne, in the chair for the first time since the dispute blew up. Independent Television News said last night that it was seeking legal advice on the decision by its journalists to walk out on Wednesday in support of the BBC staff.

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## Ugandan guerrillas demand more say

From Richard Dowden, Kampala

Negotiations continued yesterday over the formation of a cabinet in Uganda with Mr Yoweri Museveni the guerrilla leader, still holding out for more say in the future of the country.

The fact that Mr Museveni is not in Kampala yet makes negotiations more protracted. He is said to be arriving in East Africa shortly. Mr Paulo Muwanga, the Prime Minister, has told other Ugandan leaders that he is in contact with Mr Museveni's organization, the National Resistance Movement, but in Nairobi an NRM spokesman has denied that negotiations are taking place.

Yesterday a Democratic MP said that Mr Muwanga was being "very conciliatory" and that he was convinced the new government genuinely intended to bring all Ugandan political organizations into government, including the NRM.

The committee negotiating with Mr Muwanga is chaired by the vice-chairman of the Democratic Party and has been in an almost continual series of meetings since the middle of last week.

The NRM's guerrilla wing, the National Resistance Army, has been fighting against the Obote Government since 1981. General Okello has urged guerrillas to come out of the bush, lay down their arms and support the new government and there have been reliable reports that guerrillas are fraternizing with government troops outside the capital.

Meanwhile, another guerrilla organization, the National Patriotic Movement, held a surprise rally near Kampala on Saturday and a man describing himself as the guerrilla's commissioner urged support for the new government.

The leader of the organization, Mr Andrew Kayunga, left Uganda in 1983 and has lived in the United States since.

A Red Cross spokesman said yesterday that between 200 and 300 people had been injured in Kampala during the coup but would not put a figure on the dead.

The three main hospitals in Kampala are functioning and medical supplies and the Ministry of Health are intact.

The British High Commission has confirmed that a Briton, Mrs Patel, was killed during the coup. She was hit in the back by a stray bullet. About 600 Britons are known to have remained in Uganda.

Some journalists have arrived in Kampala by road but a BBC team hired a plane after being told by a member of the military council to come to the Entebbe airport.

As their aircraft approached the airport, however, soldiers manning anti-aircraft guns were put on alert. The BBC team was told the airport was closed and that they would be shot down if they tried to land.

## Rain fails to spoil royal day

By Robin Young

It was not only rain that poured down on Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's 85th birthday yesterday but good wishes too as Britain's most glorious great-grandmother defied the weather to bask in the sunshine of her admirers' affection.

The heavens opened as the Queen Mother, accompanied by the Queen and Princess Margaret, left her church of St Mary Magdalene, Sandringham, after attending morning service with villagers and estate workers.

The Queen Mother, dressed in a light blue dress, and then Margaret collected her waterproofer cape and the Queen Mother let the rain and the sun shine on her as she put the cape over her shoulders and the umbrella stayed firmly on her left wrist as for twelve minutes she braved the rain to receive greetings, flowers and birthday cards from 77 children who had lined up to meet her.

The Sandringham organizer, Mr Tony Pitt-Savage, struck up *Happy Birthday to You* in an amplified fortissimo and the crowd of 6,000 outside raised their umbrellas high, took up the theme and cheered.

The Queen laughed as her mother accepted bunches of flowers from the children, with a smile and a word for each, reducing her daughters to the role of flower girls.

Ruth Lady Fermoy and the Dowager Viscountess Hambledon, ladies-in-waiting, Sir Frederick Ashton, the choreographer, the Queen Mother's

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CREDIT PLAN

Adam's arrest demanded, page 2



# Transport workers' chief emphasizes opposition to pre-strike ballots

**By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter**

Mr Ron Todd, left-wing general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, today makes clear his outright opposition to pre-strike ballots.

Interviewed in the Institute of Personnel's journal, Mr Todd calculates that many companies would refuse to take court action under last year's Trade Union Act.

Mr Todd, who represents 1.5 million TGWU members, says: "We have said it is business as usual. We do not mean our members should go blindly over the top, where we have agreements they will be honoured, but we will oppose anyone who tries to insist that we have a pre-strike ballot."

"Some people say we are racing against a brick wall, but companies like Ford are professional enough to know they have to live with the unions. Obviously some companies will take us on: when they do, we

## Labour attacks policy critics

**By Philip Webster, Political Reporter**

The Labour Party yesterday denounced the "hysterical" reactions of the opposition parties to its new partnership deal with the trade unions. The details of the partnership are due to be officially unveiled tomorrow by Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, and Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader.

Under plans drawn up in the document, *A New Partnership: A New Britain*, for a new social contract between the TUC and the Labour Party, the unions would have an important say in a Labour government, and during the weekend government ministers were able to launch a pre-emptive strike against it.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, led the attack by saying that it would be "terrifying" for Britain if a Labour government was elected which was committed to handing over power to Mr Arthur Scargill and other union leaders.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said it would send a shudder of horror through the country, and Mr John Gummer, the Conservative Party Chairman, said it was "straight back to the winter of discontent, straight back to trade union rule".

Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party leader, weighed in with the claim that

## Unions warned on political levy

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday hinted at further action to tighten the Government's trade union legislation.

He said that he saw "precious little evidence" that unions were carrying out their duty to inform their members that they had a right not to pay the political levy.

Mr King said if they failed to do so they would have to face the consequences. "It is an obligation that everybody must be informed of their right to contract out. If the unions do not do so they must realize that it is not a situation that could be allowed to continue."

Although Mr King declined, in a BBC interview, to say what he had in mind, the law could be amended to change the system of contracting out of the levy to one of contracting in. Members would then have to tell their unions if they wanted to pay the levy.

Union chiefs were now being "total subservience" to the Labour Party in a "democratic partnership".

Mr David Steel, the Lib Party leader, described documents as "a recipe for destruction of the British economy" and gave a warning

## Speelman keeps chess lead but misses prize

**From Raymond Keene, Edinburgh**

Although grandmaster Jonathan Speelman still leads the Griverson Grant British Chess championship, he no longer has the chance to win the £10,000 Kleinwort Benson bonus prize for a score of 11 points from 11 games.

In round six, on Saturday, Speelman drew a sharply-contested game with international master Mark Hebden. In other top pairings, Mark Condie drew with grandmaster Murray Chandler, William Hartston drew with Daniel King and William Watson drew with grandmaster Tony Miles.

After six rounds, the leading scores are: Speelman 5½; Hebden, Condie, Chandler, Hartston, King, Johansen, Rogers, Watson and Miles 4½.

The British under-nine championship has been won by Steven Woodford with 6 points from six games from a field of 37. He comes from Cyril Jackson's School, Linthouse, London.

Meanwhile in Biel, Nigel Short, the British chess champion, lost his final game against the Dutch grandmaster Van der



Ireland (including seven Kehoe brothers) outpulled five other national teams to win the tug-of-war gold medal at Crophall stadium, Barnet, on the final day of the World Games yesterday (Photograph: Chris Cole). Sport, page 18.

## Cuts lose £2bn VAT union says

**By Our Labour Reporter**

More than £2,000 million in VAT revenue is being forfeited by the State because of staff cuts in customs and excise, the biggest Civil Service union claims.

The estimated figure for the deficit has been released as part of a campaign by the Civil and Public Services Association which has 100,000 members, to persuade the public of the Government's "gross mismanagement" of financial affairs and to galvanize its own members into industrial action over job losses.

A Whitehall spokesman yesterday put the estimated shortfall in VAT at £1.2 billion, but added that officials had prepared measures to reduce the figure.

Officials of the association calculate that more than two thirds of the 1.4 million traders registered for VAT - paying an estimated £18 billion a year - are late with their payments. That leaves £1.5 billion unpaid at any time, according to Miss Carol Bailey, the association's secretary for customs and excise.

About £179 million had to be written off last year and at present £367 million is owed by defaulting traders, Miss Bailey says.

Those figures together with the department's own estimate of its shortfall through the "black economy" - put at £400 million in its evidence to the public accounts committee in 1983 - show that about £2,000 million is "being lost to Treasury coffers".

Union leaders are seeking support for an overtime ban and a work-to-rule in the department.

Talks are also to take place with the Society of Civil and Public Servants and the Civil Service Union on a withdrawal of co-operation from measures agreed with the department to combat the VAT backlog, the association's journal *Red Tape* reports.

Customs and excise said yesterday that the department is "doing its best" to reduce losses but record arrears had been created by union action in 1981.

The Finance Act would enable VAT officers to halve the deficit by 1988-89, it added.

## Compensation for jailed miner

A South Yorkshire miner has won an undisclosed out-of-court pay order after a magistrate's blunder landed him in a police cell for 12 hours.

Shawn Webster, aged 26, a miner at the Cottonwood colliery, near Barnsley, was put in cells after a Worksop magistrate mistakenly issued an arrest warrant for a fine imposed during the miners' strike which had been paid months earlier.

His solicitor said: "I do not go on all the way with Brian Sedgemoor (the Labour MP who has raised the affair in the Commons) that heads must roll, but there is a problem." The TUC questioned whether the City of London could be left to regulate itself or there should be some greater supervision.

The TUC committee looked at the Bank of England report on JMB and Mr Mills said: "There is considerable public disquiet over the whole affair which the report does little to allay. It leaves a number of important questions unanswered, not the least why a bank with supposedly first-class credentials was allowed to operate with inadequate financial controls."

## Thatcher refuses JMB public inquiry

**By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent**

The Prime Minister has rejected renewed calls for a public inquiry into the Johnson Matthey Bankers affair.

She made the Government's stance clear in reply to a letter last week from Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, in which he demanded a tribunal of inquiry to look into the bank's near-collapse. Such an inquiry was set up in 1978 to look into losses by the Crown Agents.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's letter has not been made public but she is reliably understood to have told Dr Owen that she did not see any need for a public inquiry.

Her letter accompanied a detailed response from Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, to further allegations from Dr Owen about problems within JMB's gold bullion dealing business. Dr Owen disclosed that two directors of JMB's New York bullion dealing operation had been dismissed last week.

The dismissals were confirmed by the Bank of England. But the Bank is firmly maintaining that they are unconnected with the £245 million possible losses which precipitated JMB's downfall, and a

## IRA leadership claim Arrest of Adams demanded

**From Tim Jones, Belfast**

Security forces in Northern Ireland were sceptical about the report, unsupported by any report, that last week the same newspaper had been stating that Mr Martin McGuinness was the Provisional IRA's chief of staff.

It is considered highly unlikely that the IRA would appoint as overall military commander a man with such a high public profile as Mr Adams, who is the best-known figure in Provisional Sinn Féin.

If the claims were true, and Mr Adams was to be arrested, it would leave both the military and political wings of the republican movement without a leader.

Although deeply involved in the republican movement, Mr Adams, who was elected a Westminster MP two years ago, has repeatedly denied being a

## Lesson for Ulster ministers

**By Tim Jones**

Security chiefs in Ulster winced last week when Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, claimed the Provisional IRA was on the defensive and would be kept so until eradicated.

Although he qualified his remark by saying the "couple of hundred killers" still had the capacity to kill and destroy, they knew from experience it was a challenge the terrorists could not ignore.

Two huge car bombs, one in Ballynahinch, the other in Belfast, and Friday's attempt to murder a soldier on foot patrol in south Armagh, confirmed their suspicions that the Provisional IRA would demonstrate "its ability to strike at will".

Every time in the past when secretaries of state have made statements indicating that the IRA was on the run, the level of violence has increased. One high-level source said: "You would think someone would have told him never to make that claim."

The British Army has long since given up commenting on the likelihood of victory over the IRA. Its claim after internment in 1971 that it had broken the back of the IRA was followed by the bloodiest violence witnessed in the province. In that period, there were 12,386 shooting incidents, 2,404 bombings, and 641 deaths.

Although the level of violent incidents has dropped considerably since then - this year there have been 63 explosions, 139 shootings, and 37 deaths - security forces concede that the IRA has become a much leaner and more efficient murder machine.

In 1971, the terrorists carried out 197 bombings or shootings for each security force death. Today, they stage

## Profit from construction materials after decline

**By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent**

Britain's aggregates industry, with products ranging from crushed rock to ready-mixed concrete, has returned to profitability in recent months after a long period of decline which has seen its workforce fall by 7,000.

Figures released for the first time for the entire industry by the British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries show that in the face of much-reduced construction activity, the £2 billion industry has undergone a transformation, with productivity rising by 8.5 per cent a year in the five years to 1983.

The slight increase in activity this year is likely to continue throughout the summer, but was not reflected in every region and optimism for the future remained modest, BACMI said. And in spite of this year's increases, the industry's output is well down on the boom year of 1973 when public sector construction was high and the motorway programme was at a peak.

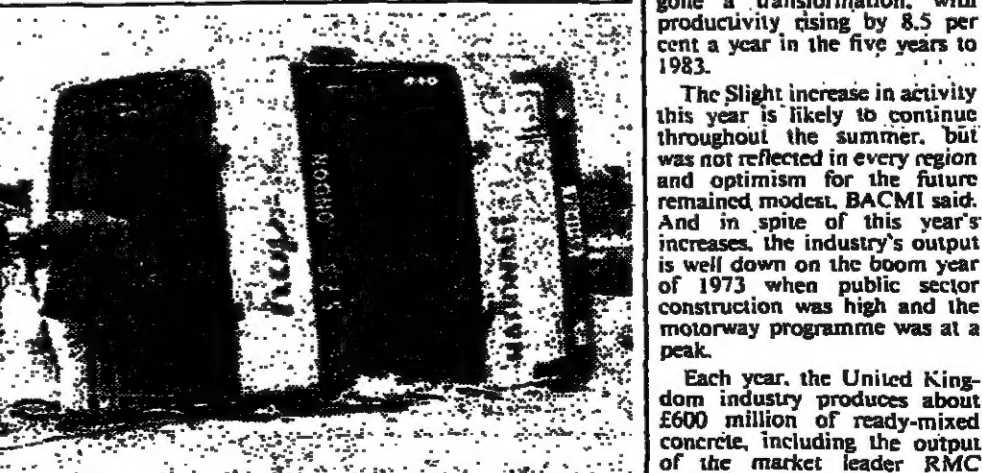
Each year, the United Kingdom industry produces about £600 million of ready-mixed concrete, including the output of the market leader RMC which is not a BACMI member.

a similar value of coated materials - the black top used in road surfacing - and £1,000 million of aggregates such as rock, sand and gravel.

The public sector, mostly local authorities, uses half of all construction aggregates and 18 per cent of ready-mixed concrete.

Aggregates companies are finding it increasingly difficult to win planning permission for new quarries and pits notably in the South-east, where many reserves have been exhausted. As a result, there is a rise in the amount of river and coastal water dredging which accounts for about 14 per cent of output.

BACMI has been at the forefront in calling for more government spending on the infrastructure. It says that with a more decrepit and congested road network, "even the most resourceful motorist may be happy to pay 50 more per gallon". This would generate another £300 million in revenue, six times more than was spent in 1983 on structural maintenance of trunk roads other than motorways, or enough to build 30 more local by-passes every year.



The double-deck coach on its side on the A1(M) motorway, Co Durham.

## Crash driver due to retire

The driver of the coach which crashed at the weekend, killing a teenage girl and injuring 50 other passengers, was due to retire later this year.

Mr John Huddleston, aged 64, of Stargate, Ryton, Tyne-side, has been driving buses and coaches for about 30 years.

Last night Mr Huddleston was still being treated for head and shoulder injuries.

Three elderly women are still in intensive care after the accident on the A1 (M) in Co Durham on Saturday in which

## Takeover heralds shopping revolution

**By Patricia Wheatcroft**

Burton's victory in its £570 million takeover battle for Debenhams will bring big changes in the high street.

Burton believes that retailing is about excitement and design, and its partner in the Debenhams project is one of the country's leading designers, Sir Terence Conran. They believe that they can revolutionize department-store retailing.

They believe that department stores should be able to generate as much business on their top floors as on their ground floors, with the help of clever design. Their aim is to turn department stores into galleries: what amounts to vertical shopping centres. Sir Terence believes that if part of the store front is removed so that customers can circulate through the middle of the building, the store will increase its turnover instantly.

Burton's recent success has been based on chains such as Top Shop, Top Man and Dorothy Perkins, all catering for younger customers and providing them with fast, fashionable, cheap clothes. Debenhams, on the other hand, has catered for the over-thirties. Demographically, that is the market now destined for the fastest growth, and Mr Ralph Halpern chairman of Burton, wants to be ready to get his share of the older shoppers. Debenhams is the ideal vehicle.

Some changes will take place quickly. Mr Halpern and Sir Terence intend to give the stores a smart new look with better fittings and some new merchandise. Later they will begin to convert the first few floors into galleries.

Not every store is suitable for gallery treatment. Those which have listed frontages, such as Debenhams in Chester, would be unlikely to get planning approval for such radical development. But perhaps two-thirds of the 67 Debenhams stores will eventually be opened up this way, with the huge costs financed by Burton selling the property to investors and then leasing it back.

A few months ago Mr Halpern visited Japan where he was very impressed by department stores which had turned themselves into collections of little separate shops linked by style and ambience. Debenhams will probably carry representatives of all the Burton stores and a selection of other retailers. Sir Terence's Habitat Mithras, has an option on one-fifth of the space.

Another game that will still feature large will be Harris furnishings, for Sir Philip Harris's company had joint trading arrangements with Debenhams which gave him almost a third of their floor-space.

In the longer term, the galleries could also be graced by FNAC, a French company that sells books, records and photographic equipment and in which Habitat Mithras has recently acquired a 30 per cent holding.

Mr Halpern's retailing philosophy has already worked to the extent that Burton's sales per square foot are three times those of Debenhams.

Fraser stake, page 15

## IRA leadership claim

**From Tim Jones, Belfast**

Security forces in Northern Ireland were sceptical about the report, unsupported by any report, that last week the same newspaper had been stating that Mr Martin McGuinness was the Provisional IRA's chief of staff.

It is considered highly unlikely that the IRA would appoint as overall military commander a man with such a high public profile as Mr Adams, who is the best-known figure in Provisional Sinn Féin.

If the claims were true, and Mr Adams was to be arrested, it would leave both the military and political wings of the republican movement without a leader.

Although deeply involved in the republican movement, Mr Adams, who was elected a Westminster MP two years ago, has repeatedly denied being a

## Lesson for Ulster ministers

**By Tim Jones**

Security chiefs in Ulster winced last week when Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, claimed the Provisional IRA was on the defensive and would be kept so until eradicated.

Although he qualified his remark by saying the "couple of hundred killers" still had the capacity to kill and destroy, they knew from experience it was a challenge the terrorists could not ignore.

Two huge car bombs, one in Ballynahinch, the other in Belfast, and Friday's attempt to murder a soldier on foot patrol in south Armagh, confirmed their suspicions that the Provisional IRA would demonstrate "its ability to strike at will".

Every time in the past when secretaries of state have made statements indicating that the IRA was on the run, the level of violence has increased. One high-level source said: "You would think someone would have told him never to make that claim."

The British Army has long since given up commenting on the likelihood of victory over the IRA. Its claim after internment in 1971 that it had broken the back of the IRA was followed by the bloodiest violence witnessed in the province. In that period, there were 12,386 shooting incidents, 2,404 bombings, and 641 deaths.

Although the level of violent incidents has dropped considerably since then - this year there have been 63 explosions, 139 shootings, and 37 deaths - security forces concede that the IRA has become a much leaner and more efficient murder machine.

In 1971, the terrorists carried out 197 bombings or shootings for each security force death. Today, they stage

## Profit from construction materials after decline

**By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent**

Britain's aggregates industry, with products ranging from crushed rock to ready-mixed concrete, has returned to profitability in recent months after a long period of decline which has seen its workforce fall by 7,000.

Figures released for the first time for the entire industry by the British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries show that in the face of much-reduced construction activity, the £2 billion industry has undergone a transformation, with productivity rising by 8.5 per cent a year in the five years to 1983.

The slight increase in activity this year is likely to continue throughout the summer, but was not reflected in every region and optimism for the future remained modest, BACMI said. And in spite of this year's increases, the industry's output is well down on the boom year of 1973 when public sector construction was high and the motorway programme was at a peak.

Each year, the United Kingdom industry produces about £600 million of ready-mixed concrete, including the output of the market leader RMC which is not a BACMI member.

a similar value of coated materials - the black top used in road surfacing - and £1,000 million of aggregates such as rock, sand and gravel.

The public sector, mostly local authorities, uses half of all construction aggregates and 18 per cent of ready-mixed concrete.

Aggregates companies are finding it increasingly difficult to win planning permission for new quarries and pits notably in the South-east, where many reserves have been exhausted. As a result, there is a rise in the amount of river and coastal water dredging which accounts for about 14 per cent of output.

BACMI has been at the forefront in calling for more government spending on the infrastructure. It says that with a more decrepit and congested road network, "even the most resourceful motorist may be happy to pay 50 more per gallon". This would generate another £300 million in revenue, six times more than was spent in 1983 on structural maintenance of trunk roads other than motorways, or enough to build 30 more local by-passes every year.

## Crash driver due to retire

The driver of the coach which crashed at the weekend, killing a teenage girl and injuring 50 other passengers, was due to retire later this year.

Mr John Huddleston, aged 64, of Stargate, Ryton, Tyne-side, has been driving buses and coaches for about 30 years.

Last night Mr Huddleston was still being treated for head and shoulder injuries.

Three elderly women are still in intensive care after the accident on the A1 (M) in Co Durham on Saturday in which

## Takeover heralds shopping revolution

**By Patricia Wheatcroft**

Burton's victory in its £570 million takeover battle for Debenhams will bring big changes in the high street.

Burton believes that retailing is about excitement and design, and its partner in the Debenhams project is one of the country's leading designers, Sir Terence Conran. They believe that they can revolutionize department-store retailing.

They believe that department stores should be able to generate as much business on their top floors as on their ground floors, with the help of clever design. Their aim is to turn department stores into galleries: what amounts to vertical shopping centres. Sir Terence believes that if part of the store front is removed so that customers can circulate through the middle of the building, the store will increase its turnover instantly.

Burton's recent success has been based on chains such as Top Shop, Top Man and Dorothy Perkins, all catering for younger customers and providing them with fast, fashionable, cheap clothes. Debenhams, on the other hand, has catered for the over-thirties. Demographically, that is the market now destined for the fastest growth, and Mr Ralph Halpern chairman of Burton, wants to be ready to get his share of the older shoppers. Debenhams is the ideal vehicle.

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## Builders fight back against 'cowboys' after VAT change

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A year after the Government imposed value-added tax on house extensions and alterations, small building firms are counting the cost of work which has gone to unregistered 'cowboy' builders.

In an attempt to outlaw the cowboys, the Building Employers' Confederation has introduced a guarantee scheme to give protection to house-holders.

The confederation is also urging local authorities and building societies to help to defeat the cowboys by giving grants and loans only to householders who use builders who are in a guarantee scheme.

Mr John Ray, of the confederation, said: "Many of the builders who in the past did improvements, alterations and extension work are now finding themselves hopelessly undercut by the cowboys. For the householder there is the attraction of a cheap price, which is understandable, but this market has virtually disappeared for the small, responsible, registered builder."

The market is estimated to be worth £6,000 million a year, of which the cowboy builders' share is about 40 per cent.

In 1984, some 46,000 complaints of shoddy building work were reported to the Office of Fair Trading and recent examples coming to the notice of the confederation make chilling reading. In one case, rainwater poured through the roof of a Sheffield couple's bungalow six months after the work had been done, but when they tried to find the builder, he had disappeared.

A Gateshead woman aged 33, paid £1,500 in advance to a builder who requested a further £200 towards the cost of insurance before he started work. He has not been seen since. In a third case, after an Oxford homeowner had paid the builder for interior alterations, he disappeared leaving the stairs unsupported.

The confederation is also concerned that the Government may raise the threshold for VAT registration from the present £19,500 turnover level to £50,000 or £100,000.

The confederation believes the present level is unrealistic because there can be few genuine tradesmen operating under the threshold, but it believes that a higher threshold would cause more distortion in competing for the market. It wants the level reduced to zero so that all traders would pay VAT.

## Best of council houses now sold

Sales of council houses are likely to become markedly slower because most of the best properties have been sold, according to a report in the National Westminster Bank quarterly review published yesterday.

With more than 500,000 council houses sold since 1980, "much of the local authority stock is, in its current state, intensely unpopular," the report says.

"Flats in multi-storey blocks in inner city locations have not proved attractive to potential purchasers." Difficulties with mortgage repayments are also expected to cause a slowdown in sales. Privatization of council housing has been accompanied by a rise in mortgage default, with one West Midlands authority reporting that one-third of its mortgage-holders are in arrears.

A rise in the divorce rate and high unemployment are given as the main reasons for mortgage default.

This may place limits on the scope for selling off council houses, the report says, because of the likelihood of greater caution on the part of both potential home-buyers and the lenders.

## Dartmoor road route attacked

By John Young

The Government's "atrocious" decision to route the Okehampton bypass in Devon through the Dartmoor national park meant no national park in England and Wales was safe from desecration, the Ramblers' Association said yesterday.

Dr Geoff Eastwood, a member of the association's executive committee, said it was utterly deplorable for the Government to ignore its own policy on roads through national parks, to reject the views of its statutory advisers, the Countryside Commission, and to seek to overturn the decision of a joint parliamentary select committee.

Dr Eastwood told a meeting of North Yorkshire walkers taking part in a 2,000 mile anniversary walk, that "Such fragile protection as national parks in this country enjoy depends on the Government respecting its own policies and taking seriously what is said by the Countryside Commission."

"By failing to do either of these things in the case of the Okehampton bypass, the Government has set a terrifying precedent which opens all national parks to threats from major roads, and from reservoirs, conifers afforestation, oil and gas exploration, quarrying and other harmful developments."

## Prison doctors used to control inmates

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison doctors have admitted that they are called upon to control inmates, according to evidence produced by the Prison Reform Trust for the Commission's social services committee's inquiry into the Prison Medical Service.

The trust cites the restricted and now defunct *Prison Medical Journal*: "Why is it that we consider it quite appropriate to control children when they behave in an anti-social way, but when those children grow up and arrive at chronological adulthood with the emotional age of a greedy two-year old, controlling suddenly becomes questionable and challengeable in the political area? But treat them and control them we must, and we should make no bones about saying that is what we do."

There has been concern in recent years about the use of drugs, suicides and the position of doctors in prisons. The article was in 1978.

Dr Benjamin Lee, medical adviser to the prison inspectorate, resigned in January 1983, saying that the chief inspector, Sir James Hennessy, was not his own master but appeared to be accountable to the permanent under secretary, Sir James Cubbison, rather than to the Home Secretary.

## Thatcher sued on job promise

An unemployed man is suing Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, Conservative MP for Hampstead and Highgate, claiming they have broken election promises to him about ensuring his employment.

Mr. A. B. Bledsoe, of Willow Road, Hampstead, north London, has issued a High Court writ for breach of promise claiming £48,000 loss of earnings. He says that promises were made personally to him to ensure his employment.

## Grandmother is found dead in freezer

A girl aged nine who went to the freezer for an ice cream found the frozen body of her grandmother inside.

Mrs Betty Clarke, aged 58, had been missing for several hours. A post-mortem examination disclosed that Mrs Clarke, of Cadbury Heath, Bristol, died of suffocation. A relative said she had been sent home from a psychiatric hospital on Friday. She was found dead on Saturday. A police spokesman said there were no suspicious circumstances. An inquest will be held.

## Child guidelines

Southwark council has issued guidelines for the supervision of children's after the death last month of a boy aged six, drowned in the Serpentine in Hyde Park, London. Adrian Wright was found floating face down in the Lido while in a party of seven children aged six to eleven being supervised by two social workers. One social worker was suspended on full pay after the incident.

## Tact conquers

Britanny Ferries, which is to open a cross-Channel route next summer between Portsmouth and Caen has dropped the idea of calling the ferry William the Conqueror, to avoid offending the English. The ship will be called Duc de Normandie.

## Fire at stadium

A smouldering cigarette end is the likely cause of a fire in an office at the back of a wooden grandstand at Bristol Rovers' Eastville stadium on Saturday night. Police have ruled out arson.

## £100,000 theft

Thieves have stolen items valued at £100,000 from Mr John Pridoux-Brune's 400-year-old house, Prudoux Place, near Padstow, Cornwall.



## Strawberry growers' bad harvest

Some fruit growers in the fens of East Anglia are ploughing their strawberry fields after a disastrous harvest which has seen yields reduced by half.

The poor crop has been blamed on prolonged bad weather, at a time when business has been badly affected by cheap imports and a reduction in jam production.

Britain's biggest strawberry processing area is around Wisbech. But the Fruit Growers' Association, which has 70 members farming 3,000 acres, says many are ploughing their fields for other crops after normal yields of four tonnes an acre were cut to two tonnes in some places.

Mr Robert Littlechild, the association president, said: "After this year's experience, a lot of them who have been growing strawberries for years have decided they have had enough and we can now expect to see a rapid and drastic reduction in strawberry acreage. Prices have gone down by £75 to £425 a tonne in the past two years and you just can't keep growing them at a loss."

## Clash on sponsorship aims

By Our Economics Correspondent

Business sponsorship of sport is no substitute for government subsidies, according to an article in the National Westminster Bank's quarterly review.

Mr Chris Gratton and Mr Peter Taylor, lecturers in economics, write in the review that the motives of business sponsors differ from those of Government.

In particular, government support for sport is usually based on the health benefits of sport, whereas much business sponsorship in recent years has gone into sports such as darts and snooker. Business sponsors tend to focus on top-class professional events and do little to provide sports facilities.

There is also a danger with excessive reliance on business support, because companies may suddenly decide to drop a sponsorship deal.

Sports sponsorship totals about £200 million the article says, and is expected to top £300 million by 1988. The most heavily sponsored sports are those with the biggest coverage on television - cricket, snooker, golf, horse-racing and tennis.

The authors say: "Both sponsorship and public subsidies are important sources of finance for sport. We do not believe that they are substitutes for one another; they are more likely to have a complementary relationship."

## Pilot blamed for hovercraft crash

The Dover hovercraft accident in which four people died and 36 were injured has been attributed to pilot error.

The Princess Margaret crashed into Dover harbour wall last March with 370 holidaymakers from Calais. The craft's operator, Hoverspeed, released the findings of its inquiry on Saturday.

Captain Ian Dalziel, aged 53, has been suspended from duty since the accident. Now he faces a disciplinary inquiry. Hoverspeed said it had also introduced new procedures.

The worst accident in Hovercraft history happened as the Princess Margaret toward the harbour. A south-westerly wind was gusting at 35 knots. The craft hit a breakwater, tearing a 30-foot hole in its side.

Hoverspeed said pilots had been reminded that they could use the alternative eastern entrance in adverse weather.

Lorna White, aged 18, being cheered by villagers of Palnackie, off the Solway Firth, as she achieves the object of a fiercely competitive Scottish watersport - flounder tramping.

The people of Kirkcudbrightshire appreciate the artistry of the initiate who can wade into an estuary, locate with bare toes an unsuspecting flounder - and stand on it.

The skill is then to whip the fish into a bag where it remains until the weigh-in at the local hostelry. Prizes of up to £100 were awarded for the biggest fish after the contest on Saturday. Entrants each paid £1 and profits went to the RNLI.

The contest, now in its thirteenth year, was thought of by Mr Sam Paterson, a Palnackie villager.

The flounder, a flat fish, regularly leaves the Solway Firth for the shallow estuary of the Urr Water, near the village, he explains. When the tide goes out, the fish lie on the bottom until it comes in again (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

## High-rise pensioners join drug addicts

Pensioners are becoming hooked on heroin while others are pushing the drug on the Liverpool estate where Jason Fitzsimmons, aged 14, took his fatal overdose, according to a new report.

The report released yesterday by Mr Jim Renilson, a local social worker, shows how pensioners become entangled in the growing drugs web and blames massive unemployment for the crisis in the Croxteth district dubbed "Smack City".

"This can lead to a deviant drug culture, which is not confined to teenage groups. It is spreading up the age range. Several pensioners in Croxteth are now involved," the report says.

Mr Renilson, who compiled the report before the Jason Fitzsimmons incident, was barred from commenting yesterday. But a community worker who declined to be named said: "It's true that old age pensioners are involved."

"I know of three cases where men in their late sixties or early seventies are on heroin. Several others have started selling the drug."

In his report, Mr Renilson, who has been a social worker in Croxteth since 1973, says drug addicts or dealers are present in 15 out of 17 multi-storey blocks.

Mr Renilson claims residents who make a stand are beaten up and have their cars and property destroyed. Whole families have been criminalized by drugs in the run-down estate where more than 94 per cent of 16 to 18-year-olds were jobless in 1982.

A policeman in a "satisfactory condition" in hospital in Aberdeen suffering from hepatitis B after being bitten by a drug addict.

PC Phil Roberts, aged 27, of Grampian Police is the second Scottish officer this year to contract the sometimes fatal disease from a drug addict's bite.

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Jackie Walker (left) and Debbie Walker

## Sea search for sisters

The mother of two teenage girls believed to be missing at sea went yesterday how they went off after a disagreement with a boyfriend.

As fears grew that Debbie Walker, aged 18, and her sister Jackie, aged 17, had drowned off Rileys in North Yorkshire, Mrs Joan Fletcher, a divorcee, wished she had intervened in the argument that led to their disappearance in a dinghy.

She said the elder girl and her boyfriend, Mr Dave Rutherford, who had known each other four years, "fell out and were going hammer and tongs at each other."

Mrs Fletcher, an amusement arcade assistant, added: "Debbie wanted her sister to go with her to a club that night, but Dave would not have it. At one point she even scratched him with a glass."

"I wasn't involved, but I only wish I had cooled them down before letting them go off. I will never give up hoping they are safe, but if I could change things now I truly would."

A huge sea and air search was still going on yesterday for the girls, who came from Featherstone, near Leeds. Coastguards were still hoping that they may be alive, hiding somewhere along the shore, because the dinghy had not been found.







## China outgrows Big Brother on the new economic road

From Mary Lee, Peking

There is great hope in both Peking and Moscow for significant improvement in Sino-Soviet economic and trade relations after two agreements signed in Moscow last month by a Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr Yao Yilin, and a Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Ivan Arkhipov.

But a recent visit to Harbin, capital of China's northernmost province, Heilongjiang, shows a different picture.

Harbin's eyes are not directed to the Soviet Union, its closest neighbour, even though the province has 23 factories which the Russians helped to build in the 1950s and which local officials say have played an important role in developing the Chinese economy.

Mr Xu Guangquan, vice-chairman of the provincial planning and economic commission, said: "Each of the steel, coal, machinery, paper and textile factories the Russians helped to build needs new equipment."

"But we don't have to rely on the Soviet Union totally for that. We certainly do not need Soviet advisers or Soviet investment."

A closer look at the recently signed economic accord also reveals that China has clearly outgrown its former "Big Brother."

The Soviet Union helped to build hundreds of factories throughout the country. But the new economic agreement requires it to help to modernize only 17 of them. In Heilongjiang, this means only three of the 23 Soviet-built plants, a linen factory (China's largest), a

paper mill and an industrial alcohol plant.

New Soviet equipment will form only part of the modern machinery the linen plant needs. The deputy director, Mrs Sun Xiuqin, said: "The most important equipment we need is for finishing processes. But we don't need Soviet equipment for that - theirs is not advanced enough. We'll be buying from Italy, West Germany and Japan instead."

A Soviet technician was visiting the town to oversee installation of four looms, but the factory has since found them unsuitable for linen. "We may be able to use them for cotton or synthetic material, which we hope to produce," Mrs Sun said.

The technician, the third sent by Moscow, refused to disclose even his name to journalists. The others came last year to help to install 10 spinning machines. Even so, Mrs Sun said: "We don't really need them."

Of the \$20 million (£14 million) that the factory will spend on upgrading its plant, half will go on Soviet equipment, she said, paid in Chinese manufactured goods and foodstuffs.

One of the biggest advantages of importing Soviet machinery, according to Western analysts, is that China does not need to spend valuable foreign exchange since all Sino-Soviet trade is barter.

As for the trade agreement, intended to double bilateral trade to \$3.5 billion by 1990, Mr Xu said: "Sino-Soviet trade will definitely expand, but I don't see how it can be double."



A Hiroshima victim and 'Little Boy' (below), the bomb dropped on the city on August 6, 1945, through the bomb bay of the Enola Gay from a height of about six miles.

## Forty years after the bomb

### The scars within a city reborn

Forty years after the first atomic bomb was dropped on Japan, its consequences are still being felt. In the first of three articles, David Watts, Tokyo correspondent, reports on the continuing suffering of the victims.

There are few signs these days of its devastating human toll on the broad streets of a city reborn. Those survivors with the ugly keloid scars tend to keep out of sight or to hide them; the scars are within.

Some of them still-dormant illnesses that will ultimately kill just as surely as the bomb did on August 6, 1945.

Others are the inexplicable taints associated with the bombing, of guilt at survival and the implication in the thinking of some Japanese that in suffering the bombing they had done as individuals.

Some victims can get treatment partly at government expense, but others are afraid to come forward because of the stigma attached to relatives, to daughters or granddaughters still seeking husbands or a son doing well in business.

"Hiroshima people don't ask that sort of question; they understand. But people from outside do."

The sufferings generated by the bomb cannot be quantified by government statistics, though last year 107,093 Hiroshima victims held A-bomb cards entitling them to health maintenance, medical care and nursing allowances.

Other victims are unable to get the kind of help provided by Hiroshima city. They are Canadians or Americans or Brazilians of Japanese descent.

Some of the tens of thousands of Korean and Chinese cursed by being in Hiroshima that day or those who went in search of friends or relatives soon after.

Many of the diseases are the familiar ones associated with nuclear radiation: leukaemia, cancer of the lymph nodes and the liver, anaemia and eye problems, together with 11 other ailments that Japanese doctors recognize as being associated with nuclear fallout.

What is not clear is how

many people are suffering genetic and other defects handed down from parents affected by the bomb. Many may be unaware of the potential problems.

The Japanese Government estimates that those seeking treatment as direct victims of the bomb and those seeking help as victims by extension should total about the same; yet the latter coming forward are only about half the expected number.

Applicants for A-bomb cards come at the rate of about 100 a month, even 40 years after the blast.

There are a myriad reasons for this. Some have been too ashamed: it took one man 38

years before he could begin talking about his experience. Others are only now feeling symptoms. Others are becoming eligible as the designated area affected by the explosion is expanded.

Some get cards from politicians seeking votes, and others are not really victims at all but simply like the idea of free medical checks.

"We give people the benefit of the doubt," says a Hiroshima city official.

But even today the regulations require two witnesses to prove that people are victims. That is not easy when you are the only survivor of an entire middle school, or happened to be a Korean factory worker kept on the outskirts of the city in a slave-labour ghetto.

Physical needs can be taken care of, as far as science is able. But the victims have failed to convince the Government to give them comprehensive assistance, such as rehabilitation and compensation for lack of income.

Tomorrow: Expanding the armed forces



JAPAN: THE LEGACY OF HIROSHIMA Part 1

many people are suffering genetic and other defects handed down from parents affected by the bomb. Many may be unaware of the potential problems.

The Japanese Government estimates that those seeking treatment as direct victims of the bomb and those seeking help as victims by extension should total about the same; yet the latter coming forward are only about half the expected number.

Applicants for A-bomb cards come at the rate of about 100 a month, even 40 years after the blast.

There are a myriad reasons for this. Some have been too ashamed: it took one man 38

years before he could begin talking about his experience. Others are only now feeling symptoms. Others are becoming eligible as the designated area affected by the explosion is expanded.

Some get cards from politicians seeking votes, and others are not really victims at all but simply like the idea of free medical checks.

"We give people the benefit of the doubt," says a Hiroshima city official.

But even today the regulations require two witnesses to prove that people are victims. That is not easy when you are the only survivor of an entire middle school, or happened to be a Korean factory worker kept on the outskirts of the city in a slave-labour ghetto.

Physical needs can be taken care of, as far as science is able. But the victims have failed to convince the Government to give them comprehensive assistance, such as rehabilitation and compensation for lack of income.

Tomorrow: Expanding the armed forces

### Women tie Washington in a giant ribbon of peace

From Michael Binyon, Washington

As clergy, politicians and television reflected solemnly yesterday on the fortieth anniversary of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima, about 10,000 women protesting against nuclear arms arrived here to tie an enormous ribbon round the Pentagon, the Lincoln Memorial and the Capital.

The ribbon is a collection of 25,000 pieces of cloth, each 18in by 36in and variously embroidered, knitted, quilted, painted or woven with images of what the women could not bear to lose in a nuclear war. The colourful banners were symbolically tied together, linking the Pentagon and the Capital, in ceremonies in which folk

singers and survivors of Hiroshima took part.

The demonstrators came from all over the United States. A special service was held in Washington Cathedral on Saturday, at which about 2,500 of the banners were used round the pillars and draped over the pews. About 200 will be exhibited later in the Chicago Peace Museum.

The organizers of the demonstration, a 61-year-old grandmother, said it was a gentle reminder of the world they cared about. "It's to say to the Government that we love babies and buttermilk and Mozart, and that all those things would be destroyed in a nuclear war."

### Sierra Leone celebrates transfer

## General replaces ageing President

By Andrew Jaspert

Freetown was in carnival mood at the weekend as Sierra Leone's new President-designate, Major-General Joseph Momoh, toured its dilapidated streets in an open sports car with President Siaka Stevens.

The armed forces chief was the only candidate nominated for the October presidential referendum by the West African state's All People's Congress on Friday.

During the rowdy and colourful ceremony, the two former contenders for the presidency, the first Vice-President, Mr Sorie Kaboré, and the second Vice-President, Mr Francis Minah, pledged their support for General Momoh.

The peaceful handover is a personal triumph for President Stevens who is nearly 81 and has ruled the one-party state since 1971.

He said that the consti-

tutional transfer of power in Sierra Leone set an example for Africa. It was proof of the nation's maturity and stability.

General Momoh, aged 48, is now effectively in charge. As a career soldier he joined the British-run West Africa Frontier Police in 1958 and was then sent for further training in Britain at Hythe and Aldershot.

He rose through the ranks becoming acting forces commander in 1971 and received the OBE in the same year. In 1973 President Stevens appointed him as MP and he joined the Cabinet in 1978.

Like the president, General Momoh is of mixed tribal background and affiliation and a devout Methodist. "The major success of Stevens's presidency has been his ability to put a stop to the previous endemic inter-communal strife through balancing the interests of the tribes", Dr Richard Cliff, Britain's High Commissioner in Freetown, said.

General Momoh will retire as head of the armed forces, but his long army service should put him in a strong position to institute urgent reforms.

The former British colony is gripped by corruption, high inflation, low agricultural and industrial productivity and a chronic foreign exchange shortage. The cost of living soared last February after a 50 per cent devaluation.

General Momoh will also have to walk a political tightrope with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).



General Momoh: walking a tightrope with IMF

### MEP priest defrocked in Genoa

Rome - A priest who became a Socialist member of the European Parliament at the last election has been defrocked by the ecclesiastical court of his archdiocese of Genoa (Peter Nichols writes).

The fact that Don Giovanni Baged Borzo fought the election in the interests of a specific party laid him open to censure under canon law.

He was ordained in the Genoa archdiocese at the age of 40 - old by Italian standards - and made a name as a political commentator.

He has been severe in his criticism of the Christian Democrat party, which he refused to see as a worthy political arm of the Church and the Pope. One of his last articles before the court's verdict amounted to a heavy attack on the papacy.

He said he would observe faithfully his suspension a *divinus*, meaning that he can no longer say Mass and fulfill other priestly duties, or wear the garb of a priest.

It has naturally been seen here as a case of the Pope firmly disciplining his critics, but it is difficult to see how Don Baged Borzo could have expected to escape punishment once he had entered active politics.

### Nimeiry aide denies corruption

Khartoum (Reuters) - The former Sudanese Presidential Affairs Minister, Mr Baba Eddin Muhammad Idris, has pleaded not guilty to charges of political and economic corruption, some of which carry the death penalty.

Mr Idris, aged 53, a top aide to former President Nimeiry, made his first appearance on Saturday before a three-man state security tribunal whose members were approved by the military leaders who ousted President Nimeiry in April.

Mr Idris was read nine charges and statements he was said to have made told the court he had nothing to add at this stage.

### Fans shot at

Duisburg (AFP) - Three fans of the W. German football side, FC Hamburg, were injured yesterday, one of them seriously, when supporters of a rival club, Duisburg, threw stones and shot tracer bullets at their coach from two motorway bridges.

### Test protest

Auckland (Reuters) - A flat-bottomed boat with a crew of seven was given a rousing send-off when it left here for French Polynesia to join a flotilla being sent by the Greenpeace environmental group to protest against France's nuclear tests.

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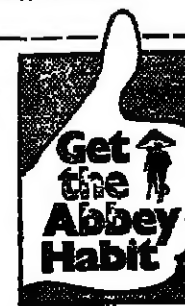
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# Latin America shrugs off Castro appeal to ignore 'cancerous' debts

From Alan Tomlinson  
Havana

Like the ram in the once-popular song, Fidel Castro often seems to be trying to punch a hole in a dam.

At 58, President Castro still has high hopes. Now he is trying to punch a hole in an even bigger dam - the deep sense of obligation and responsibility which keeps Latin American governments paying their \$360 billion (£250 billion) foreign debt.

Dr Castro insists that it is unpayable and advises them to stop paying.

But his call for collective repudiation has been collectively rebuffed. President de la Madrid, his close Mexican ally, who owes nearly \$100 billion, dismissed the idea as "out of the question". President Sarney of Brazil, who owes even more, said the debt was not "an ideological weapon".

Even President Garcia, who on taking office last week stunned Western bankers by pegging repayments to 10 per cent of Peru's export earnings, urged that the problem should not be dragged into the East-West conflict. The Cuban leader sent him a huffy letter in response.

Few people who have any responsibility for the debt turned up at a hastily-convened conference in Havana last week.

## Peru pays up

Peru will pay \$123,000 (£87,000) in overdue interest to the US and hoped Washington would respond by not cutting off new aid, the Foreign Minister, Señor Alan Wagner Tizon, said in Lima at the weekend. (AFP reports).

Washington had informed the Government that by law it had to suspend all new military or economic aid because Peru had fallen more than a year behind in repayments. Señor Wagner made his announcement after a meeting between President Garcia and the US Ambassador.

On the other hand, 1,200 delegates representing the entire political spectrum did attend the meeting. Government delegations came only from Nicaragua, Guyana and Bolivia.

On arrival on Tuesday they were confronted with mountains of President Castro's published speeches about the debt. The delegates themselves added hundreds of thousands of words in from which the tiresome Cuban leader was never absent even for a minute.

He wrapped up the proceedings late on Saturday with one of his tow-and-a-half hour speeches. He reminded those who may have seen his initiative as opportunistic about just how long he has been punching away at this particular dam: first in 1971, when the debt was a tenth of what it is now, and again in 1979, when the entire Third World debt was only a little less than the amount Latin America owes today.

"The debt is a cancer. It multiplies until it finishes off the whole organism. It requires surgery."

His speech was peppered with references to the absurdity of the notion that the debt can ever be paid. Dr Castro has fed all the data into a computer and makes print-outs available to visiting politicians to underline his hypothesis.

However, Western economists here believe collective repudiation of the debt is still a distant dream. "I think every body understands that this essentially plays a part in bargaining process," Professor Arthur MacEwan, head of economics at the University of Massachusetts, at Boston, said.

Cuba has little to lose. It owes nothing to US banks and precious little to other Western nations. Little is known about its considerable debts to the Soviet Union.



The two disasters in which almost 170 people died; at least 35 when trains collided near Flaugnac in France, and 132 in the Dallas air crash.

## New radar sought after jet crash

From Peter Nichols  
Rome

New York (Reuters, AP) - United States aviation authorities are seeking funds to install radar sensitive to the type of sudden wind shift which may have caused Friday's Delta Airlines TriStar crash which claimed the lives of 132 passengers and crew. Wind shear, which has been blamed for 27 other incidents since 1964, has emerged as a strong possible cause of the disaster which happened as the TriStar approached Dallas airport in a fierce thunderstorm.

Wind shear is associated with violent storms. An aircraft entering a burst of cold air under a thundercloud may undergo a sudden lift, immediately followed by a downward thrust. This, with a reduction of airflow over the wings, can cause crashes at low altitudes. Present airport radar systems are too weak or localized to provide adequate warning, experts say.

A new system had been tested in Denver, Colorado, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesman, Mr Edmonson, said. The authorities were seeking up to \$400 million to install new Doppler weather radar nationwide by 1990, he said.

The National Transportation Safety Board spokesman, Mr Brad Dunbar, said his agency had recommended three years ago that the FAA install the Doppler system in commercial airports after wind shear was blamed for a Pan Am Boeing 737 crashing shortly after takeoff in a rainstorm from New Orleans, Louisiana, killing 153 people.

The FAA had told the board in July 1983 that it planned to include Doppler in all its air traffic control systems by 1992.

Mr Patrick Bursley, a board member and head of the team investigating the Dallas crash, said the system in use at Dallas gave "very localized" readings and that the nearest sensor had been able to detect a sudden wind change had been about a mile from the site of the crash.

Meanwhile, relatives of the 132 people who died in Friday's crash arrived at Dallas-Fort Worth international airport on Saturday with dental charts, photographs and other records by which they hope to identify loved ones.

Of the 120 bodies taken to a forensic laboratory only 12 had been identified by Saturday.

## US and Egypt in biggest joint exercise

Cairo - Yesterday saw the start of joint military manoeuvres between the United States and Egypt, the largest since the 1980 Brightstar which began in 1980 (our Correspondent writes).

This year for the first time the exercises will include an amphibious landing. It will be the biggest Brightstar operation.

Colonel Hassan Mammish, an Egyptian military spokesman, explained that the manoeuvres would be in three phases. The amphibious landing, which will probably include US Marines, on Egypt's Mediterranean coast, west of Alexandria, a mock airborne attack involving Egyptian and American paratroopers, and a live firing exercise involving air-to-ground artillery, tanks and infantry shooting.

view widely held when he declared recently that the police had become Public Enemy Number One in Mexico.

Dr Pofner went in to see the doctor. He too had a tale to tell. Last month his home had been burgled. The doctor said all the evidence suggested the police had been responsible.

It is abundantly clear to every Mexican that the police are the country's principal law-breakers, their concern less to prevent than to perpetrate crime. A senior member of the National School of Lawyers expressed a

## Election setbacks fail to break resolve of Italian Communists

From Peter Nichols  
Rome

The Communists here expect that their spring national congress will produce a party more radical and at the same time more realistically identified with the country's problems.

They still control a third of the Italian vote despite electoral setbacks, and the problem now is how best to impose their continuing strength on a political system which is intent on managing without them.

They have suffered a series of defeats in the big cities, which they controlled for a decade, after the local government elections of 1975. They have lost Rome itself, where the first Christian Democrat mayor is about to return after 10 years of left-wing rule. They suffered a defeat at the June referendum on wages policy, but they claim that the 46 per cent gained by the losers to the referendum merely underlined how the Communists can still organize a huge protest.

Their continued unity in the face of these setbacks has been surprising. The central committee last week showed a totally unexpected amount of support for Signor Alessandro Natta, the party secretary, who was responsible for the policies which led to the setbacks.

Signor Natta is looking very cheerful, and is probably feeling

in charge for the first time since the sudden death of Enrico Berlinguer in June of last year brought him to the secretaryship.

Signor Natta's relations with Moscow are more relaxed than were Berlinguer's. Berlinguer had become for the Russians in the pro-Gorbachev days a symbol of limited dissent. He has now gone, and the new leadership in Moscow is felt here to be much easier to deal with. Direct contacts are marginally less frequent.

## Ministers ally fears

From Jan Raath, Harare

## Harare quick to heal rift with its white farmers

From Jan Raath, Harare

Zimbabwe's white farmers are delighted that the rift between them and the Government has been swiftly healed.

At the congress of the Commercial Farmers' Union held last week, the six Cabinet ministers who addressed them showed none of the vitriolic rhetoric reserved for whites after the election success of Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, and his Conservative Alliance party in June.

The farmers also sidestepped controversy and confined themselves to discussing finance, spare parts and tardy policemen.

Early last month, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, angrily accused white farmers of being significantly responsible for Mr Smith's 15-seat victory in the elections for the 20 seats reserved for whites in the House of Assembly.

Mr Mugabe did not reappoint Mr Denis Norman as Minister of Agriculture.

Last week, however, farmers warmly applauded the six ministers, who promised them renewed support and made several significant concessions.

Mr John Laurie, re-elected union president, said the conference was a positive one. He made no reference to the recent

events which had dismayed the tightly knit community of about 4,000 farmers, but said they had a genuine and apolitical commitment to the country which should not be underestimated.

Mr Bud Whitaker, a senior member of the union's council, was cheered when he said the union's problems were financial rather than political.

Mr Moven Mahachi, the new Agriculture Minister, quickly alleged farmers' fears. "I know there are many of you who think Mahachi knows nothing about farming," he told them, then fielded questions on policies and problems to the farmers' apparent satisfaction.

He said the squatters' honeymoon was over, and they could no longer expect to be ignored by the Government. He assured the farmers of his sympathy in Cabinet over a 12 per cent wage increase for plantation workers, which many feared would put them out of business.

The farmers also noted with interest that Mr Mahachi sat with union leaders throughout the two-day congress.

Mr Laurie said security in the country had improved. Delegates said a warm rapport prevailed when Mr Emmerson Munangwa, the Minister of State for Security, briefed them behind closed doors.

## Spaniards against Nato

From Harry Debelius  
Madrid

Opposition to Nato membership is growing in Spain, according to a survey published yesterday by the independent Madrid daily *Diario 16*. A referendum has been promised for next spring.

The poll, conducted last month, indicated that 42 per cent of Spaniards would like to sever all ties with Nato. Only 29 per cent were in favour of remaining in the alliance, either as a fully integrated member or as a political member outside military structure, as at present.

At about midnight the policeman saw a young couple strolling by, stopped the car, hit them and then pushed the youth into one car, the young girl into the backseat of the other. The journalists looked on in horror as the girl was raped.

The criminal's repertoire of the Mexican police covers everything from rape to burglary, mugging to organised crime, notably drug-running. Short of rounding up suspects and torturing them into making confessions, as one diplomat pointed out, their capacity to investigate crime is non-existent.

## Craxi wins second confidence vote

Signor Bettino Craxi's Government won two votes of confidence in two days, the second on Friday, two days before the second anniversary of his becoming Prime Minister.

His tenure of office is not a record but it is twice the average and he has made it clear that he intends to continue to provide stability.

This week, however, he faces the report on the devaluation of the lira, which nearly brought him down last Thursday. In the autumn he faces the whole question of the Government's policy towards the south, and he must reckon with - increased opposition from the Communists.

Moreover, the extreme anti-communism of President Reagan has inevitably forced the Communist Party towards positions which in international affairs are closer to those of the Soviet Union, the leaders say. They maintain that the forthcoming party congress will produce a programme which will not only make the party stronger in opposition here, but also the most sensitive towards the country's problems, with a greater capacity to deal with them.

From now until spring, a specially selected commission of 77 will supervise the arrangements for the national congress. Not until the end of the year will it be possible to estimate to what extent the Communists will be in a position to rethink their attitude on national as well as international problems, which is the issue facing all Italy's leading political parties.

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## Alaska fails to impeach Governor

Washington - A Senate committee in Alaska decided at the weekend not to recommend the impeachment of Governor William Sheffield on charges of political cronyism because there was not enough support in the full state Senate (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Sheffield, aged 57, a millionaire hotel owner, was accused of having steered a \$9.1 million (£6.5 million) lease for state office space to a building in Fairbanks partly owned by a political supporter.

A grand jury returned no indictments but in July recommended the removal from office of Mr Sheffield, a Democrat who has never before held political office. He would have been the first US governor impeached since 1929.

Kremlin expels Liberia envoys

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union has protested to Monrovia over the expulsion of its staff from Liberia and retaliated by ordering Liberian diplomats out of Moscow, according to Tass.

The dispute started when Liberia broke off relations on July 18, accusing Soviet diplomats of interference in its internal affairs and giving them 72 hours to leave. Students were said to have been caught passing defence information.

Ex-Asean chief may be tried

From Our Correspondent  
Jakarta

The present spate of trials here has taken a bizarre turn with a prosecution document disclosing in an almost throwaway phrase that nine prominent dissidents, including three former ministers, are to stand trial.

The men named include a former Secretary-General of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, General Dharsono, a former Mayor of Jakarta, Mr Ali Sadikin, a former mining minister, Mr Slamet Ratumanan, a retired Air Vice-Marshal, Mr Soeyitno Sukirno, and a former police chief, Mr T S Hengeng.

One of them listed, who preferred not to be named, said the group was taking a wait-and-see attitude to the document, and pointed out that six of the men had not been charged with anything.

The other three: General Dharsono, Mr M H Sanusi and a Muslim student identified as Erlangga, are in jail. General Dharsono and Erlangga are awaiting trial and Mr Sanusi is serving a 19-year sentence for his alleged part in bombings of ethnic Chinese properties in October in which two people died.

Senior sources in the prosecutor's office said that despite the document it had not been decided whether the nine would be brought to trial or called as witnesses in the case of Mr M Fatwa, a member of a dissident group of 50 who is to be tried soon on charges of drawing up subversive documents.

The prosecution sources say the date for Mr Fatwa's trial had been fixed, though charges against him are circulating around Jakarta. It is that document which mentions that the nine men will be brought to trial, without mentioning a date or on what charges.

All of those on the list, with the exception of General Dharsono, are prominent members of the "Group 95", so named because of a 30-signature petition to parliament five years ago protesting against government policy. Since then the group has kept up a small but steady stream of critical documents.

General Dharsono was arrested last November and charged with attending meetings in which the October bombings were planned. Highly placed sources say that officials have been trying to persuade him to make a public apology and to retire from political life in return for his freedom and a dropping of the charges.

Interest cut

Lisbon (Reuters) - Portugal's outgoing Socialist-Social Democratic coalition Government cut lending rates by 2.5 per cent in an attempt to boost investment as parties prepared for a general election on October 6.

Disco deaths

Naples (AP) - Fireworks exploded at a discotheque at Formin, 50 miles from here, killing two young men preparing a pyrotechnics display and injuring 20 people.

Basque killing

San Sebastian (Reuters) - Suspected Basque guerrillas shot dead a retired policeman in the second politically motivated killing in the Basque country in 48 hours.

\$20m flood

New York (AP) - Damage from a flash flood which struck Cheyenne, Wyoming, during a thunderstorm and killed 12 people is estimated at \$28 million (£20 million).

Bible battle

Manila (AFP) - Three prisoners were stabbed to death and five wounded in a battle between gangs during Bible study in the prison chapel at Quezon City.

## Police taken to task by Gandhi

From Richard Ford  
Delhi

An alarming description of the Indian police has been given by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, who is clearly worried by the frequency with which the Army is deployed on law-and-order duties.

Even his own security staff come in for criticism, which was little short of astonishing, given that his guard was dramatically increased after the assassination of his mother.

During a passing-out parade at the national police academy in Hyderabad, the Prime Minister criticised police training, their handling of weapons in riots and their driving.

He urged the force to find new methods and technology to combat terrorism, which in one form or another existed in most of the country and was "the first and foremost challenge facing India".

"At the drop of a hat we are calling in the para military forces and army. This must end." It was no use asking the Army to defend frontiers if it did not have the backing of a stable and orderly people.

Mr Gandhi asked whether the police should use another weapon rather than risk innocent lives with indiscriminate firing of 303 rifles during riots. He doubted whether police officers knew how to shoot with a pistol when they were operating under stress or in combat situation.

He had found cassettes unable to handle radio sets and then added, in a rebuke to his own security staff: "I do not find them being used by my own security men."

The Prime Minister's criticisms, particularly those indicating lapses in his own security, are bound to worry authorities.

They come only days after Delhi police were under attack for their conduct before and after the murder last week of a Congress (I) MP Lalit Maken, his wife and an unemployed man.

## Gemayel resurfaces with an old refrain

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

It sounds very much like the same old story. After months of virtual silence, President Gemayel - bereft of even the Christian militia which helped to bring him to power - is blaming the Palestinians for Lebanon's catastrophe, but claiming that reconciliation is on the way.

Successive presidents have said the same sort of thing these past 10 years, usually because someone was trying to put Lebanon together again.

Tomorrow, the Syrians will be attempting just that and Mr Gemayel, true to form, announced yesterday that security in Beirut "is gradually being restored".

Despite some fierce artillery duels on Saturday between Lebanese Army troops and Druze militiamen in the Metn Hills, not to mention the kidnapping of yet another employee of a Western news organization in the capital, the President apparently believes what he says.

Lebanon has begun the course of reconciliation, reforms and security despite the shelling, he announced over the radio.

In the central Lebanese town of Chataura tomorrow, Muslim and leftist groups - including the Shia Muslim Amal movement and Druze - are meeting under Syrian auspices to form an alliance and to announce their conditions for reconciliation with the Christian Maronites.

It is already evident that this

metropolis at least as busy as Piccadilly Circus. He was debating whether to buy some arts and crafts goods he had seen in a shop when a stout-thighed individual, identifying himself as a policeman, kicked him in the leg, then in the groin and bundled him into a car, passers-by looked on with fright, but it appeared, little surprise, Dr Pofner says.

In the back seat of the car he found himself jammed between two other plainclothes policemen - they later showed him a police badge - who, as the car moved off, took turns to punch him in the face and stomach.

"I don't suppose the Queen's police behave in this way," one policeman jeered, emptying Dr

Pofner's pockets of the 8,000 pesos (£17) he was carrying. "We've arrested you because you've got marijuana on you," one policeman told him.

"Sorry, I don't have any marijuana."

"Shut up! Don't be insolent!" Dr Pofner, subjected to a string of quite gratuitous profanities uttered against himself and his Queen, was driven to a quiet street, still in the city centre, and pushed out of the car.

His experience could not have been more typical. Also last Saturday, a Canadian husband and wife suffered exactly the same fate. Two federal policemen bundled them into a car, beat them,

robbed them and dumped them.



## THE ARTS

Transformations  
on a tiny budget

Joseph Losey's film *The Sleeping Tiger* will be shown at the National Film Theatre tonight. Here Losey explains why it was made pseudonymously and how he met Dirk Bogarde, his star

Losey: "Without it I might have been finished"

I arrived in November 1952 - and I had an extremely bad time. Through Carl Foreman I was introduced to the Danziger brothers, who wanted to know if I would supervise a television series without putting my name on it and direct some. So for most of 1953 I worked for the Danzigers and they paid me \$100 a week under the table so I didn't have to pay tax on it, and that was what I lived on. And I brought in Paul Dickson and, eventually - much later - Richard Lester and various other people to direct. The television programmes were absolutely appalling, but at least it was work and I could live. That was the formal beginning of my work in England, and I did not go back to the States for the next ten years.

At the time when I arrived in England, finally, in 1953, let me summarize: I had done twelve plays on Broadway; the first one I co-produced and directed when I was 22; I had done a number of plays off Broadway; I had made a lot of education films; I had done three important documentaries for the Government; I had done some commercial films like *Peter Rabbit* and *his Cousins*. I had directed five films in Hollywood; I had staged Russian War Relief and United War Relief, dramatized mass meetings in Madison Square Garden, Boston, Detroit, Washington, Chicago, all over. I had done Political Cabaret; I had done Lunch-hour Follies.

I was an established, successful, theatre and film director - not rich, I mean I had no money, but I had never been destroyed. I had done the *Living Newspaper*. Almost all my reviews were good. And now my earnings were almost nil, and I couldn't sign any of my work.

I was petrified. And I had physical attacks. I thought that I was going to die. I thought that I had a heart problem. I used to have to leave the theatre because I was suffocating. I had to sit down in the middle of London traffic on the kerb because I couldn't stand up. I couldn't breathe. I went to various doctors - kind doctors who charged me little. I had no heart problem. And it was just sheer, absolute panic, because I had nothing. I had no family; my wife had left me. My child was living in the United States in a boarding school. I had no money. I had no work. I was 44. So I was at a point when most people begin to coast in their lives and everything that I had accomplished meant nothing. It was a terrifying period and probably terribly valuable for me. I had absolutely no preparation for being a pariah. I

had no preparation for being a Jew, for being a minority person! And if I was a Communist then that was my right to be a Communist, I thought.

I did somehow get through it with a little help from my friends. I mean, most English people who were outraged by the political situation and who really fought. None of them were Communists. They all wanted to believe that I was not a Communist either, but none the less, they did defend my right to stay. And it was very difficult to stay in England because I had to report to Immigration every week, and I never got a permit for more than thirty days.

Carl Foreman set up *The Sleeping Tiger* with me and the writer, Harold Buchman, who was also blacklisted. Of course it was done under other names. Foreman had a very cheap story and he said would rewrite the script. The deal that was made with me financially was ridiculous. I got paid £1,000 to direct the picture. It took me about six months. I had a small interest in the film which I, in desperation, at the end sold to somebody whose name I can't even remember for \$2,000. So out of the picture, I got a total of about \$5,000. The English market wanted to employ me because first, they knew that I knew my

job; second, they got me very cheaply; third, they thought I would make pictures for the American market; fourth, they thought I would attract American stars; and fifth, in some sort of strange way they thought they could keep it all secret.

I want to make it very clear that I don't put Carl Foreman among the people that exploited me, because without him I probably would have done nothing. I'm also very grateful to people like Nat Cohen, whom I don't very much like. He was prepared to employ me and it was essential for me to work - absolutely essential. Not just for money. So there is no bitterness about any element of exploitation and there's a certain amount of irony and humour about the way it all worked.

*The Sleeping Tiger* was a lousy cheap story as bad as James Hadley Chase's *Eye*, worse maybe. A sort of bedtime reading for senile stages. Harold Buchman did the best he could on the script but he was not quite of the calibre of Foreman in terms of Foreman's inspiration when he had it.

It was suggested that Dirk Bogarde might do it. I didn't know anything about him; had never seen him in a film, either personally or on film, so a screening was set up of his last



"I'm going to do this picture with Dirk Bogarde and nobody else"

picture, *The Hunted*. On the morning when it was to run, I was told by the producer that Bogarde under no circumstances would consider doing a picture of this budget with a blacklisted director, particularly as he was not prepared to take any reduction on his salary which at that time was immense for England. I loved the film. I came out and I said "I'm going to do this picture with Dirk Bogarde and nobody else."

I called Dirk Bogarde and I said "I know you don't want to do it. I know you don't want to do it, but can I come

and talk to you?" So I went out to one of his many beautiful houses, all of which now I have known, and it was an immediate love affair. I said "Well, there are immense difficulties: the story is not very good but Carl Foreman is going to rewrite it (he never did); the budget is very small but I'm very good at dealing with that; I'm blacklisted, but I'm told that's no problem for you; so will you come and see *The Provencer*." He came to Finsbury, saw it, adored it and said he would do *The Sleeping Tiger*. The whole situation was

transformed, and I think it's fair for me to say that later on, with *The Servant* and *Accident* and even *Madame Bovary*, which he disavowed, and certainly *King and Country*, Dirk's career was transformed. Certainly my career, and even the existence of a career at all, was made possible by Dirk's acceptance; because without it I might just have been dead - finished.

*Conversations with Losey* by Michel Ciment is published by Methuen (£30 hardback, £9.95 paperback).

Television  
Affection

Cattle and gardening expert, excellent fisherman, acute judge of horseflesh, the most successful owner national hunt racing has ever known and, even in defeat, superlative among good losers: these were some of the accolades bestowed on the Queen Mother in ITN's *A Birthday Portrait* last night.

The programme was written and narrated by Anthony Carthew, ITN's court correspondent, and it seemed somehow an incongruous association but Mr Carthew covers royal occasions well. It is not an easy task. There is a tendency, in commenting on our principal national fiction, to elevate the most ordinary human signal into something extraordinary but Mr Carthew has established a humorous style that enables him to skirt banality.

The Queen Mother has happily lived long enough to present something of a problem when it comes to celebratory programmes. So many milestones have been passed that biography would be rather repetitive. ITN gave us a picture essay which was both charming and amusing.

We saw the Queen Mother at her chosen home at Castle Mey in the bleakness of Caithness where nothing seems able to grow higher than the level of a wall. She plonks here in all weathers and the guests follow after. One imagines that with the climate and the particularly aggressive midges, of which natives appear proud, some might prefer an invitation to one of her other establishments, but this love of the outdoors and the determination to grow things no matter what, perhaps gives us a clue to her longevity.

It was Churchill, we heard, who persuaded her out of the seclusion she sought after being "knocked sideways", in the words of a lady in waiting, by the death of her husband. Churchill went uninvited to Balmoral and told her the country news.

ITN's film bore ample testimony to her ubiquitous activity since then. Much of it had not been seen before, but none of it caught its subject, no matter what the predicament, in anything other than beneficent mood.

Mr Denis Healey, though not, of course, in the same league as the Queen Mother, is something of a national institution, too, for which he may owe a slight debt to Mike Yarwood whose impersonations have softened the image of abrasiveness. On Channel 4 on Saturday he was in recollective mood before Bel Mooney in *Fathers by Sons*.

This is essentially a confessional series and Mr Healey revealed himself as an affectionate son, parent, and thoughtful man. His father, a teacher and principal, had not found it easy to show affection, he recalled, but had it in great measure. Love, he thought, was the most important thing a father could give a son.

He admitted to being capable of cussedness like his father, to a tendency to be cruel sometimes through lack of consideration, and to a habit of making humorous remarks subconsciously intended to hurt. Worst of all, he admitted, he may have gained some satisfaction from hearing him recall the thump round the ear he received for a hasty retort he gave his father when being upbraided for being bottom in divinity, though obviously it did not cure the habit.

Dennis Hackett

From painful youth  
to bruised maturity

The Seagull  
Queen's

To anyone with memories of the English Stage Company's 1964 *Seagull* at the Queen's, it is an uncanny experience to return to that theatre, where Vanessa Redgrave delivered an incomparable Nina, to see her performing the same service for Arkadina, with her daughter taking over the younger role.

It is also curious to revisit Charles Sturridge's production, first seen at the Lyric, Hammersmith, in April, with two week lead performances recast on the heroic scale. The effect is not, as one might suppose, to blast the rest of the show out of the water, but rather to bring it the focus and definition it originally lacked. At Hammersmith, it seemed that Mr Sturridge was aiming at a style of hard-edged comedy which failed to digest all the elements of the play, and which had the effect of trivializing it and splitting the ensemble into a hierarchy of lead and supporting roles.

At the Queen's the comedy is as harsh and biting as before, but now operates in a context that allows silence, unspoken tensions and the other Chekhovian elements to flower as well. The change that has overcome the production lies largely in its separation between the viewpoints of youth and middle-age: the first the domain of lyricism and pain and the second the zone of comedy. Jonathan Pryce, the new Trigorin, comes over as a feverish victim of his own way of life, slamming the door on Nina

only to return for a long pent-up confession of professional misery which, for once, nobody could take as Chekhov's own opinion. Exclaiming in triumph over his win at lotte, or wolfing his breakfast as Masha inflicts her life story on him, Mr Pryce's Trigorin falls into the old comic role of a habit-ridden, middle-aged sensualist who makes the fatal mistake of attempting the role of a romantic lover.

Miss Redgrave's Arkadina takes that character's profession in deadly earnest. Arkadinas are traditionally preening theatrical monsters with manners to alienate any paying public. Miss Redgrave takes the obvious but seldom followed course of showing her power to charm and her perpetual hunger for an audience. She appears to have direct honest feelings and affections; and it is only by degrees that you realize that this is all part of the show. At the lakeside play, she introduces Trigorin to the lady-killer Dorn with a brilliant pantomime of duelling pistols. In the second act, she emphasizes the contrast with the lumpy Masha (another fine new performance by Julia Swift) by embarking on a marvellously funny dance solo, incorporating her own applause.

The key to this side of the production comes in the third act when, to regain Trigorin, she catches him at the door in a flying rugger tackle and pours out her avalanche of literary flattery while almost twisting his arm off. The episode does not stop there. As a rule, Trigorin ends this scene as a broken man, his submitting to inescapable servitude. This time the scene finishes with



Vanessa Redgrave and Natasha Richardson

giggles of lust as the partners tinkle and goose each other into forgetfulness that sexual contact can ever mean anything more. This frees the play for Natasha Richardson's Nina to emerge from star-struck insensitiveness into the bruised maturity

of the last act, without suffering farcical contamination. The performance does not dispel the impression of her mother's Nina, but it offers lyrical revelations of its own.

Irving Wardle

## Promenade concert

LSO/Abbado  
Albert Hall

Despite having recorded both the Berg Three Orchestral Pieces, Op. 6 and Stravinsky's *Petrushka* together, Claudio Abbado and the LSO could not have chosen a more technically demanding programme for an evening's music. That the two works seem to thrive on chaos, the Berg a type of cerebral complexity, and the Stravinsky

a fantastically exotic world where the imagination has run riot, is a little disquieting for the audience, and I wonder about the wisdom of performing both within such a relatively short space of time. It was certainly the Ruckert Songs of Mahler, which separated the two titanic orchestral showpieces, that provided the highlight of the evening.

The five Ruckert Songs, in which the soloist was the American soprano Maria Ewing, might seem to dwell on more intimate thoughts than are compatible with the Albert Hall, but not so. Miss Ewing laid bare her soul in a performance that can have left few unmoved, and which was ecstatically applauded by the audience. Abbado was extremely clever in controlling the volume of sound of the orchestra without diminishing its ability to provide an expressively lyrical accompaniment. The soloist's relaxed purity created a mood of timelessness within which she communicated a resigned despair that had somehow been sublimated by an inner core of transcendent calm. The final song emerged as a testament to the art of music itself. The balance of her voice with the various members of the wind section was a marvel, and the vox humana emerged as the musical instrument.

This was all a far cry from the glorious technicolour production that is Stravinsky's *Petrushka*. This is a work that can overtly rely on the various players' "character appearances" for its effect, and I am afraid that this performance did not escape this pitfall. It was largely the string section that let the side down.

The articulation and rhythmic bite sounded very tame next to the pert suavity of the oboe and the unashamedly hectoring bombast of the trombone.

The momentum of a performance cannot be effectively sustained if the audience is waiting reverentially through episodes of rather lacklustre playing for the next catchy tune (not that I am belittling the response of this audience, but surely reverence is not an appropriate reaction to such a rip-roaring score?).

Nevertheless, Kurt-Hans Goedicke's handling of the timpani never ceases to amaze me, and I shall long treasure the picture of the pianist prodding a rather nonchalant celeste-player in the back, presumably reminding him not to flunk his entry.

But on terms of pure music, Stravinsky's *Petrushka* compares with Berg's 3 Pieces for Orchestra as does a Chagall with a Modigliani: they are about different things. The Berg, which opened the evening, needs a concentrated handling that can elude the music approached over-academically. Claudio Abbado, without a score, demonstrated extraordinary authority here. As with the Stravinsky, virtually every instrument of the orchestra is utilized, the brass section being called upon to produce all types of sonorities. Written only 10 years after the Mahler and a mere two after *Petrushka*, the 3 Pieces seem to belong very much to our times.

The peculiar combination of intricacy and power in the Praeludium and the fragmentary handling of motifs in the subsequent movement tend to draw the attention to sonority *per se*, rather than to melodic content. Whereas the LSO brass can be unbearably loud in the Barbiere, in the Albert Hall they can play out to their heart's content without rising anyone's eardrums, and the broad, one's powerful base they supplied in the final piece served to put into some perspective what Mosco Carner described as the "original chaos" that permeates the movement. But the feeling that Berg is purposefully stretching himself so as to use every instrument under the sun leads one to marvel at his cleverness, rather than be especially moved.

James

Methuen-Cambell

Promenade  
concert

Electronic works  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

As the technology of electronic music has become more complex, a kind of fail-safe mechanism has at last begun to operate; composers now seem to be prepared to build from simple elements whose simplicity duly remains audible in a concern for clearer structure and textures than one used to expect.

Thus the basic material of Jonathan Harvey's *Mortuus plango, vivus voco*, which began this late-night Prom consists of just two sound-sources - the largest bell of Winchester Cathedral, and a single boy's voice - pre-recorded and then subsequently transformed and composed at IRCAM in Paris. The results went down very well with the audience, and deservedly so; at ten minutes the piece is unusually and convincingly concise, sonically most appealing and - because the material strays very far from the original sound - structurally coherent even at a first hearing. The incantatory tolling of the final section stays in the memory.

During Harvey's work we were treated to some pretty multi-coloured light-projections onto the Albert Hall's ceiling so that the flying saucers looked like an assortment of giant size Smarties (minus the brown ones). Things reverted back to normal for Milton Babbitt's *Philomel* (1963) for soprano and tape, which sets an Ovid-inspired text by James Hollander in a manner that beautifully relates vocal and synthesized sounds. Babbitt's extraordinary ear and scrupulous virtuosity of thought were much in evidence, enhanced by a streak of lyricism not always associated with his music.

The synthesized tape material, though richly composed, used a carefully restricted range of pitch and dynamics, allowing plenty of room for the voice to come through. Dorothy Dorow, idiomatically attired in a pale blue Roman-looking dress and headband, gave an assured performance of the difficult but by no means anti-vocal soprano part. John Rusby-Smith's sound-projection - balanced voice and tape most skillfully. Altogether a vivid and hauntingly evocative utterance.

In contrast, Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Kontakte* of 1960, for piano, percussion and tape, seemed to encapsulate all the most depressing aspects of electro-acoustic music. The huge space of the Albert Hall was better able to accommodate Stockhausen's turgidly roaring spateful of electronic sound than the Barbiere hall could do when the same excellent players (pianist Ingo Metzmacher and percussionist Andreas Böhm) gave the work there last January.

But the 35-minute structure still seems as sprawling as ever; Stockhausen's flair for working in broad strokes is occasionally discernible but loses out to acres of self-defeating hyper-activity. *Kontakte* may be historically significant as the first really large-scale attempt to fuse live and electronic sound, but the ear rebels against the notion that it is any kind of masterpiece.

Malcolm Hayes

## Concert

CLS/Hickox  
Barbican

True to his usual chaotic form, Mussorgsky completed just one act of an opera based on Gogol's *The Marriage* before losing interest. The prospective bride does not even appear.

Less characteristic was Rimsky-Korsakov's behaviour. He published the opera with hardly an "improvement" added of his own, nor an orchestration. The latter has been provided in our own time by two English composers, Oliver Knussen and Colin Matthews, and very apt it is too, with its thumbnail depictions of mood and its Russian emphasis on horns and clarinets.

It needs to be, because the score confines the singers throughout to a witty, declamatory style - presumably imitative of various Russian dialect speech-patterns. One waits for some extended lyricism on the quasi-folk-song lines he adopted so successfully in *Boris Godunov* but it never comes. This is one of Mussorgsky's oddest experiments.

But then, Gogol's original play is hardly straightforward. Indeed, some Western scholars have recently argued that the author was using this bitter, bizarre denunciation of the institution of marriage as a sort of coded message to bypass the censor and express his own covert homosexuality.

Richard Morrison

Dennis Hackett

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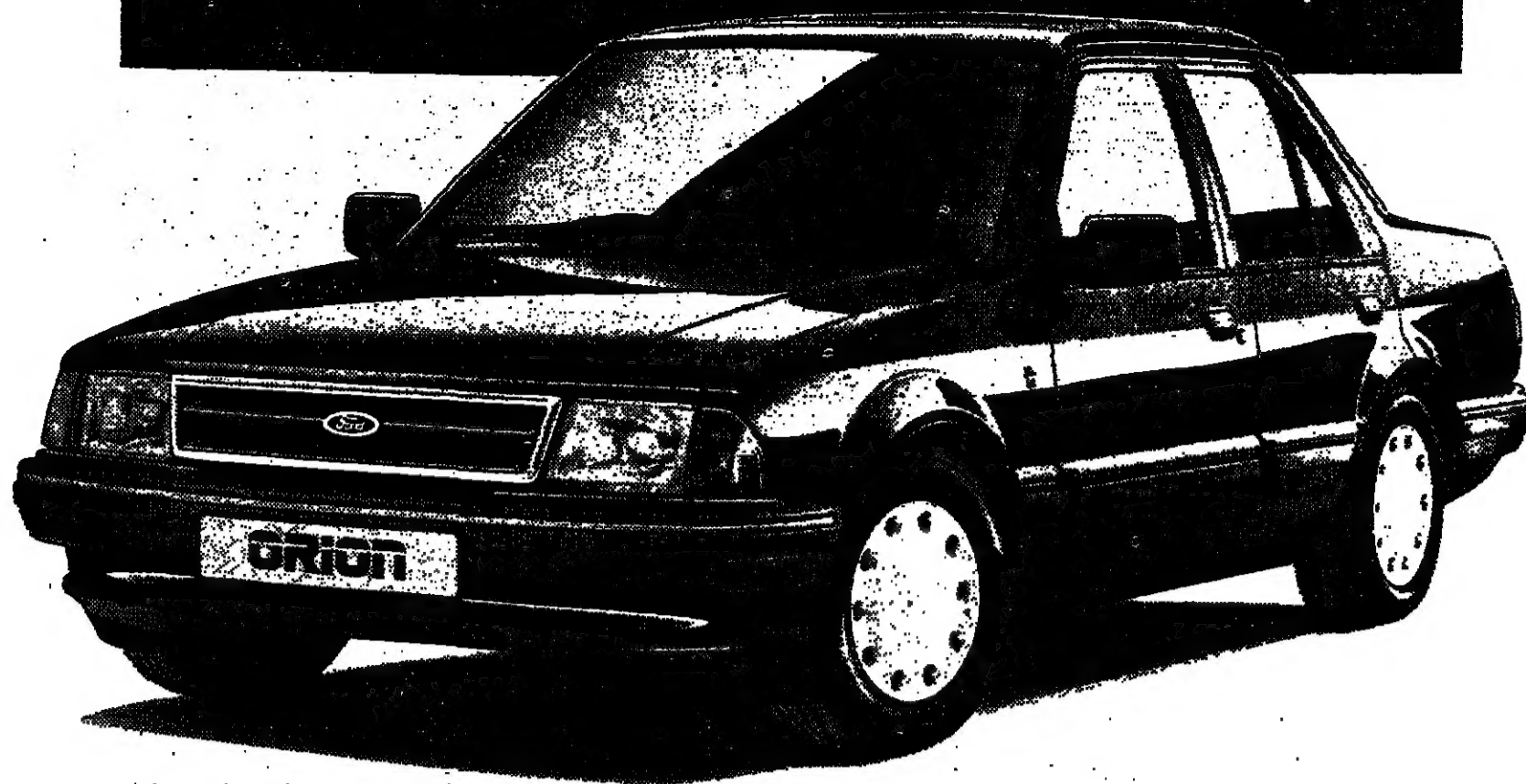
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## SPECTRUM

# The art of spending a fortune

Research, scholarship and teaching – the J. Paul Getty Trust plans a billion-dollar cultural renaissance beyond the walls of its museums, writes Geraldine Norman

Paul Getty must have had a vision in mind of what was likely to happen if he left his vast fortune to the small museum he had established in Malibu, California.

Great fortunes are, of course, inextricably mixed up with the history of art. One has only to think of royal patronage, of the Medici, of the Rothschilds and the Saatchis. Great fortunes have paid artists to create, built architectural masterpieces to house their work and been poured into the accumulation and display of art collections.

It is likely that Paul Getty, the oil tycoon, had something of this sort in mind. But he does not appear to have left any instructions. He just cut his family out of the will and left his fortune to the museum. The trustees have had to decide how to spend it.

Any project for spending so much money – \$2.3 billion at the last count – must have a dream quality. The legal responsibility, frightened the trustees into engaging the most high-powered money man they could find. Their choice was Mr Harold Williams, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington. It is his dream, and reflects a faith in the absolute value of education shared by most 20th century social engineers but few great art patrons of the past.

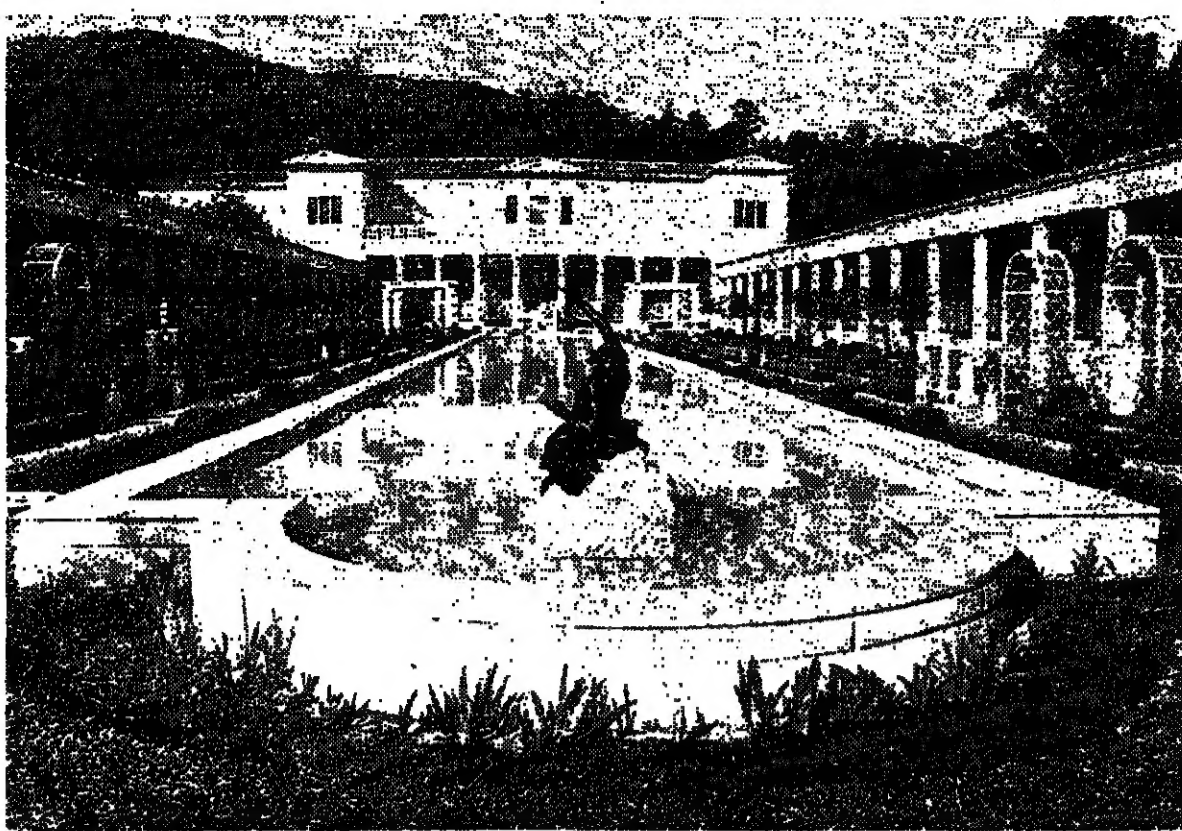


The trust can almost spend the income without buying art  
John Walsh

He changed the name from J. Paul Getty Museum to the J. Paul Getty Trust in 1983, a move which reflects the subordinate role of the museum in the institution he is creating. The museum is now one among seven operating programmes of the J. Paul Getty Trust, as John Walsh, the museum's director, told me recently. The trust is almost in a position to spend its income without buying a single work of art.

No similar institution exists. It is not a museum, it is not a university and it is not a heritage agency, but it combines activities characteristic of each. The accent is on art history, the encouragement of research, scholarship and teaching. This university flavour probably reflects the years Williams spent running the graduate school of management at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Only the new building project has a whiff of the traditional Maecenases about it. The trustees have spent several millions to acquire 742 acres of the wild and romantic Santa Monica mountains overlooking the vast sprawl of Los Angeles and the blue Pacific. They have hired Richard Meier to build the \$100 million plus fine art complex on them, a new



The Roman villa at Malibu where J. Paul Getty (top) kept his art collection. Now Harold Williams (bottom) administers the Getty billions

museum, a conservation institute and the Centre for the History of Art and the Humanities.

Otherwise not a penny is being spent on creating art, though a grant of \$3 million has been promised to the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, possibly in response to pressure from local arts groups. Williams emphasizes that his aim is to "make a difference", to find activities where the beneficial "Tect of the Getty wealth will be most felt."

Here is a guide to the new institution:

The J. Paul Getty Trust J. Paul Getty died in 1976, leaving most of his fortune to the museum he had built but never visited. His family went to law to contest the will and it was not until March, 1982, that the museum received its endowment, then worth \$1.2 billion. By December, 1984 it was worth \$2.3 billion.

The trust is required to spend at least 4.25 per cent of its endowment every year in order to retain its charitable status. Mr Williams was appointed president and chief executive in May, and spent the following year developing an operating plan with the aid of two attractive young women with experience in art administration, Leilani Latin Duke and Nancy Englander.

The trust has its headquarters in Century City the most expensive and luxurious office accommodation in Los Angeles. Williams's salary is reported to be £266,000 a year. The headquarters handles the investment of the endowment, the building programme and the grant programme while coordinating the seven operating programmes. Grants of up to about \$15 million a year are available.

Nancy Englander is director of programme planning and analysis. She also has responsibility for the grants programme and public relations. Next to Williams, she is the most important figure in the operation. Indeed, she is reputedly the one who really runs it. Her salary is reported to be \$66,000 a year.

The J. Paul Getty Museum Paul Getty was a keen art collector and the museum was opened in 1954. Heir to build the \$100 million plus fine art complex on them, a new

style ranch house on a 65-acre canyon estate in Malibu and the contents reflected his personal taste: Greek and Roman sculpture, French 18th-century furnishings and Old Master pictures. He was genuinely interested in antiquities and had a good eye for French furniture. But his choice of Old Masters was poor. He could never resist a bargain and bought a lot of school pictures masquerading under grand names.

In the 1960s he conceived the imaginative plan of building an exact replica of a Roman villa which was buried in the eruption of Vesuvius in AD79. It was built further down his Malibu canyon overlooking the Pacific and opened its doors as a museum in 1974.

John Walsh, a specialist in Dutch 17th-century painting, arrived from the Boston Museum of Fine Arts to the directorship in 1983. With the aid of Myron Laskin, previously at Ottawa, he has begun buying very good pictures to redress the balance of the old collection.

The Getty Centre for the History of Art and the Humanities The purpose of the centre is to receive visiting scholars and encourage them to research, write, hold seminars and exchange ideas. Its creation reflects Nancy Englander's perception that the study of history has become highly specialized, thus losing touch with the broad sweep of culture.

To remedy this the centre intends to play host to scholars from a wide variety of disciplines and make them talk to each other in the hope that they will achieve and propagate ideas. The first group of 20 scholars arrives in September.

The centre's director is Kurt Forsner, a 50-year-old Swiss-born art historian who has taught at Yale and Harvard and ran the Swiss Institute in Rome. So far his activities have concentrated on gathering the tools that scholars need to work with, namely a library and a photo-archive. He has already acquired 200,000 books and more than a million photographs of art and architecture; he has a big staff engaged in sorting and cataloguing this deluge of material.

The Getty Conservation Institute The institute reflects another English ideal – trying to save old works of art from being destroyed by ill-conceived restoration and conservation treatments.

There are three main trusts: scientific research into conservation techniques, the collection and dissemination of information on conservation practice, and advanced training schemes for qualified conservators.

Luis Nonreal, who arrived as director this summer, is a Spaniard who had been Secretary General of the International Council of Museums in Paris since 1974. The institute has a temporary headquarters at Marina del Rey. They have one laboratory there and another at the museum.



She controls grants of \$15 million and public relations  
Nancy Englander

Research has started into varnishes and other protective coatings while another project investigates the effect of air pollution on art. They are establishing a 50,000-volume library on conservation together with computer data banks.

They intend to run seminars and workshops to disseminate knowledge, while helping to establish apprenticeships, and other training schemes around the world.

The Getty Art History Information Programme

The dream here was to put a vast amount of art history into a computer memory where it would be electronically cross-referenced and indexed to allow scholars to home in on exactly the information they needed. Or, as they put it themselves in computer jargon: the creation of large data bases, the linking of them and their relationship to more specialized research data bases. They have taken over or agreed to help with a number of specialized



## A COUNTRY DIARY

Start the rot, we want to have fun



The first entry in a new series by Paul Heiney on the challenge of living on the land

Our little boy has invented a new word: *statching*. He knows what it means but can't, or won't, yet tell, but when the statching begins we all take cover. He will run, often in circles, frantically moving this-to-here and that-to-there. "I yam statching", he will gasp, until dizziness or exhaustion overtakes him and he needs a hug and to be told that everything is all right.

We've all done a lot of statching since we came to live on this old farm, with its one-acre remnant of what was once a proud man's land. Not that we're farmers, heaven forbid. We have not joined the "new settlers", of which there are many hereabouts: humble folk with only a cabbage-patch and a house cow to see them through till the next investment income cheque. We're here to have fun in the country.

We'll grow our own vegetables for the taste, we'll have Mother's Pride if we feel like it. We always knew the fun would have to be earned, if that means a sickly piglet spends the night in the warming oven of the Aga with only the porridge-pan for company, so be it.

We never expected the transition – from bijou Georgian in South London to crumbling Tudor in coastal Suffolk – to be a smooth one; but in our most heroic dreams we did not see the 48 discarded vodka bottles in the water tanks nor the gap in the kitchen door through which an icy northerly wind can whistle sharply enough to drive out a visiting bank manager looking for a forgotten overdraft. Which came first, I often wonder: the drink or the cash crisis? There is so much history within these farmhouse walls, and we are adding to it at an alarming rate.

No time for reflection, there's statching to be done. Take the compost heap. Dust to dust, ashes to ashes and potato-peelings to the compost heap is the organic growers' creed. Now, I have read *Common Sense Compost Making* like a child learning its times-tables, and it makes no sense to me. Why, when I have layered my horse muck, my grass clippings, sprout tops, and enough tea-bags to keep Sri Lanka solvent, am I left with a stinking midden that

even the plucky little robin won't peck at? This is supposed to be Nature's Way, when she has worked her wonder, I am supposed to have a pile of crumbly brown humus rich enough to turn on to a plate. I don't know what stopped the process, at this foul stage, I am inclined to suspect the discarded panful of sorrel soup, made on an embarrassingly folksy summer weekend and nasty enough to halt any ecosystem. It halted mine for days.

Wilfred blames the tree. Wilfred is our neighbour, and Wilfred is usually right. Forty-three years on the land have taught him a lot about everything except communication. He rarely voices an opinion but his utterances usually make sense. "The tree", he said, "shadder".

So I moved the heap from the shadow. Both reeking tons of it, quickly past the kitchen door to cause least offence to the diners, and to its new resting-place, a devoid of leaf cover and treacherous shadders as a 1930s housing estate.

Sir Mortimer Wheeler perhaps would have enjoyed the extended dig, the little discovery, observing how Christmas, represented by a mouldy crack-toy, has given way to the gaiety of spring when some weekend visitor, ignorant of country ways, had assumed a yoghurt pot would also return to the earth. Simple folk.

Although the sun shines freely down on the dung, the sprout tops, the tea-bags and eggshells, I still have the gravest doubts. The cursed book talks of "a slow rise in temperature". So far, only a graveyard chill. I shall not be happy until the heap is steaming. Humming would be better. But it lies cold, and silent. Rot it, I say.

## TOMORROW

New squararchy: How William Benyon MP runs his estate – first of two reports on Britain's rural landowners



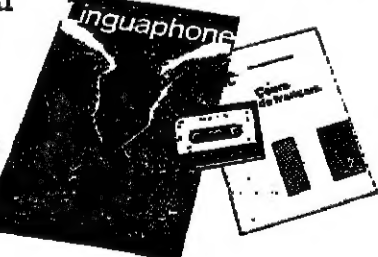
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## The secret of the Black Dyke, still a champion story

You could see it was going to be a difficult session from the harassed eyes of the record producer, Brian Couzens. "We may have to disband", he muttered, hanging on to a microphone strut in the middle of Dewsbury Town Hall. In fact, just about everything was going wrong.

A Rotary Club charity concert at the Blackpool Opera House playing Grieg's Piano Concerto with John Briggs, then a late-night cabaret spot at the Winter Gardens, had been followed by the inevitable period of liquid relaxation which meant that they didn't start heading towards home before 2am – not the best preparation for recording Delius's "March Caprice" and



Sounding brass: the unique Black Dyke Mills Band recording at Dewsbury Town Hall

Holst's *The Perfect Fool* in the morning. This was especially true today, since the modern digital recording techniques, favoured by Couzens's Chandos Records, are almost sensitive enough to pick up morning-after blues let alone the slightest extraneous noise, and there was no shortage of that. Outside, three Irishmen were earning double-time attacking the road surface with pneumatic drills, and the din reverberated in the acoustic delight of Dewsbury Town Hall.

Major Peter Parkes, professional conductor of the Black Dyke Mills Band in full blow, No one has been able to match it, though not for want of trying. The Dutch, the Swiss, the Norwegians, all buy the band's records and try to fathom its rich, warm secret. The Japanese have tried everything from electronic analysis to precise imitation. When the Black Dyke went to Japan last year, they were met at Tokyo Airport by the Black Colt (Mitsubishi) Brass Band, dressed in the same black uniforms that have been sported by the Black Dyke more or less since they began in 1833, and playing one of the Black

The gesture spoke years of authority. Woe betide any bandman who was not ready when that stick came down. There was a scrambling for instruments and music, and a flickering of fingers over valves as they settled themselves into their seats, arranging their beer bellies comfortably around them. The stick swooped down, like a kestrel on its prey, and the great British brass heritage echoed around the hall.

There is nothing in the world like the Black Dyke Mills Band in full blow. No one has been able to match it, though not for want of trying. The Dutch, the Swiss, the Norwegians, all buy the band's records and try to fathom its rich, warm secret. The Japanese have tried everything from electronic analysis to precise imitation. When the Black Dyke went to Japan last year, they were met at Tokyo Airport by the Black Colt (Mitsubishi) Brass Band, dressed in the same black uniforms that have been sported by the Black Dyke more or less since they began in 1833, and playing one of the Black

Dyke's greatest hits. "And they were very good", said Major Parkes candidly. But it wasn't quite the same. It may be something to do with the water or the hops, or the Great British embouchure, or the rolling hills of England or the natural inflections of Yorkshire. "How do you feel this morning, John?", one member asked John Clough, the principal euphonium player of Black Dyke for over 20 years. "Champion, champion", he said, sipping from a flask of coffee, warmed, he disclosed, with a shot of rum.

After 30 minutes of thorough rehearsal, Major Parkes left the platform to return with the news that the Irishman would start respecting the Sabbath at midday. On the dot of 12 o'clock, Brian Couzens, buried in the cellar with his digital equipment, flipped a switch, the red light glowed and the band launched into Delius's "March Caprice".

By 12.25pm, "March Caprice" was in the can, and a section of the band, led by the soprano cornet player, who was puffing away on a cigarette,

crowded into cellar to hear the playback. It sounded good.

During the short break, John Clough sipped away at his rum and coffee and talked about the band and about organs – he is an organ builder by trade, maintaining, among others, the organ of Bradford Cathedral – and bemoaned the changes threatening the British brass tradition. "Too many people are coming into brass bands from orchestras and trying to change them", he said, voicing the rear-guard action the traditionalists are now mounting against a move towards more contemporary, entertainment-style methods. "But it is not happening in Black Dyke."

The band's horizons remain much the same as they have done for years. Having won the European Championships in Copenhagen in May – for the sixth time in the last seven years – they are aiming for a hat-trick with the British Open in Manchester in September, and the National championships in the Royal Albert Hall in October. To do that, however, they will have to

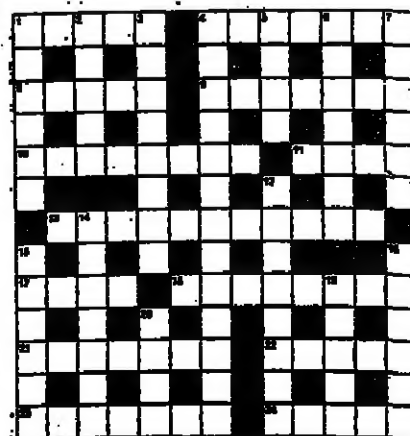
overcome their main rivals, the Cory Band from Wales, who have won the nationals for the last three years in succession. With the Black Dyke's history of 190 years of pre-eminence, it is a minor hiccup, but it irks.

The players wandered back on stage and sorted out the music for *The Perfect Fool*. Major Parkes politely asked the soprano cornet player to take off his shoes which were offering a creaking counterpoint to the all-hearing digital equipment. Parkes glanced to his left at Philip McCann, regarded the world over as one of the finest solo cornet players of recent years. A diffident man by nature, he wiped his mouth with his ever-ready handkerchief and blew a tuning B flat, a note that glowed a warm amber in the air and held steady and pure. The cornets, the horns, the trombones and the basses answered with a broadening crescendo that was as thrilling as anything Holst could have written. And they died away, one by one, leaving the sound of McCann to linger in the caves.

Nicolas Soames

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 714)

- ACROSS
- 1 With (5)
  - 4 City merchant (7)
  - 8 Instances (5)
  - 9 Usual (7)
  - 10 Hypnotic (8)
  - 11 Senses (4)
  - 13 Badly conceived (11)
  - 17 Turnout (4)
  - 18 Pattern (8)
  - 21 Roman war cart (7)
  - 22 Spite (5)
  - 23 Road cleaner (7)
  - 24 Cellulose fibre (5)
- DOWN
- 1 Pull up sticks (6)
  - 2 Water hole (5)
  - 3 Casual observer (8)
  - 4 Mendicant misadventure (7,6)
  - 5 African money unit (4)
  - 6 Leading woman (7)
  - 7 Savour (6)
  - 12 Resting place (8)
  - 14 Cut off (7)
  - 15 Saffron plant (5)
  - 16 Deutsch (6)
  - 19 Irritate (5)
  - 20 Mispronounce "s" (4)





## MONDAY PAGE

## Standing up for herself

Pamela Stephenson is tired of other people making the decisions. She told Pearson Phillips about her own show in Edinburgh this month

She wanted eight giants and eight midgets. But theatrical economics have made her settle for little Melanie Dixon, who plays the trumpet. Tiny Tony Cooper, who disco-dances, and 28 characters played by herself - that's naughty Pamela Stephenson.

It isn't easy to carry on being an enfant terrible past 30 particularly if you have an enfant of your own.

Pamela Stephenson is now living what she calls "a private, settled life" in her home in a converted fish factory in west London. Baby Daisy is 18 months. Pamela's getting together with Billy Connolly has become yesterday's scandal. Her Maggie Thatcher on *Not the Nine O'Clock News* seems a long time ago. She has been making films and has just finished a season on the American satirical TV show *Saturday Night Live*. But she is about to achieve the aim of every performer weary of doing other people's sketches and other people's films: "My own show".

It goes on at 11 o'clock each night for a week at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, from August 25 and 26. But that is just a preview. "It is all so totally new and experimental. I don't really know

Connolly's influence was dismissed as if she had barely heard of him

how it is going to turn out". When she has found out, she intends to stretch it from an hour to an hour and a half and take it on a round-Britain comedy trail.

She took a lunch break from rehearsals to tell me. The old, punk Pamela may have softened a bit. But she still likes to stand out from the crowd. Her hairdresser, she explains, is genuinely colour-blind. So the remains of her long, blonde locks, chopped to fit the 15 wigs her show demands, have been treated with orange, lime-green, turquoise. "I think I look like one of those coloured feather dusters," she does.

But underneath all this is what one director described as "an extremely serious, very hard-working and, thoroughly professional person".

Her script has been written partly by herself, largely by commissioned writers, including a couple of fellow Australians called Patrick Cook and Geoff Albertson. "But it is my thing," she says firmly. With some hesitation, I suggested that perhaps the influence of that supreme one-man late-night artist Billy Connolly had been behind it. She looked as though she had barely heard of him. "I do admire those people who can go and just attach themselves to a microphone and deliver to an audience for an hour. But I don't think I'm that sort of performer. And I am not sure that people in this country are yet convinced that a woman can be funny."

"I have tried it though. I went to Edinburgh once before and attempted to do a sort of stand-up comedy act. It was between series of *Not the Nine O'Clock News* and it was my first attempt at stand-up. There were just 75 people in the audience. I did an hour but that hour changed every single night."

"And I used to do quite a bit of what we nowadays call alternative cabaret. I did stand-up at The Comic Strip in the very early days. People imagine that no



Naughty or nice? Pamela Stephenson between acts

one who had been on television ever appeared there, but I did, and I actually toured with Alternative Cabaret playing a lot of very strange venues. I was working on my stand-up quite substantially at that point, but I found it difficult, because there weren't any other women around at that time, and I was

In one scene, she plays the whole cast of an Agatha Christie thriller

going on after people like Alexei Sayle, so I had to produce the toughest material I could. I was breaking bottles on my bosom, just to survive.

"But through all that I found what I liked, doing, as opposed to what I thought was clever or other people. This show is the result of that."

What she discovered was that she got a better response from changing suddenly into lots of different people than from trying to put across a version of herself.

"I like to make something happen on the stage, to trick people with magic and illusion. I have got four traditional pieces of illusion in the show. Ali Bongo has been very helpful, although the Magic Circle told me that I couldn't become a member because I am a

woman. I couldn't believe what I was hearing.

"Humour goes well with magic. What I like is combining comedy with a real skill. There is one sketch where I actually have to sing the opera *Salome*, in which you will remember John the Baptist's head makes an appearance on a plate. That is the scenario for a traditional theatrical illusion. You can imagine what we do with it."

She also uses another old-time musical skill, quick-change artistry. In one scene she will be playing a whole Agatha Christie play by herself using people from her repertoire of mimicry for the cast. Ian Paisley is the vicar, Neil Kinnock is Bronwen the Welsh maid, Mrs Gorbachov is the Russian countess, Arthur Scargill is the inspector, Robin Day is the dissolute son and Margaret Thatcher is Miss Marple.

This skill for mimicry was put to the supreme test when she was auditioned for the American *Saturday Night Live* show. "The producers had liked what I had done on *Not the Nine O'Clock News*, but they didn't want a British person and they weren't sure I could do American characters. So I had to test as an American and do 17 different American characters in front of Americans, which is a cheek when you think about it. I did it by going on holiday to Los Angeles and studying a lot of characters on television, and by

always overran, giving them the opportunity to cut out anything the invited audience didn't react to. Not just whole sketches, but also bits of sketches. And if you asked if you could rehearse the cut, they'd say, 'No time, but it will be on the cards'. So I would find myself doing a scene live in front of 35 million people that I hadn't rehearsed the end of, and I would be reading it as I went along."

Not surprisingly Pamela had some problems fitting in with what the American programme-makers and their sponsors considered was tasteful enough for even late-night television. "We had our own censor. Can you believe it, his name was Bill Clowworthy. True... I was in trouble from the first day. He wouldn't allow me to refer to my nipples in a scene. And yet one of the boys actually said the word 'nipple' in another scene. Of course, I was in a right state about that, it was apparently all right for boys to say 'nipples' but not girls."

She made herself an American satirical reputation to match her British one. And it was all wonderful experience. But she doubts if she will do anything like it again.

"I feel it is important not to get stuck in a groove. You have to keep developing. You get to a point where you're tired of doing something which is just somebody else's decision. Even films are so much products of director's nowadays. I doubt whether you can consist them a performance medium any more. It would be wonderful to be someone like Mel Brooks writing, directing and acting your own movie. The only way to develop is to try new things, and to do that you need your own show."

So that is what she is doing. She may take pains to look like a feather duster. But she would not like to be thought a feather-brain.

tape-recording people in the street.

"After that I had to do a crash course in American politics. Because when I arrived on the show I found myself in a room full of people who were making jokes I simply didn't understand." She used to smile and check up afterwards.

The programme went out live between 11.30pm and 1am to an audience of 35 million. She did seven months of it and found it back-breaking. "Picture the scenario. We had a split studio, working on two different floors. So there I was, having just done Nancy Reagan in front of 35 million live Americans - 'Raanie and I' - and I'm grabbed by a dresser and pulled through the cameras and the audience to the lift - sorry the elevator. And I'm pressing the button of this elevator to go from the third floor to the eighth, where I have to appear after the commercial break, which is 45 seconds long as Glenda Jackson playing Joan of Arc."

"In the elevator, somebody is throwing chain-mail on to me, somebody is ripping off one wig and putting on another, somebody is darkening my eyes with black stuff. We finally get to the eighth floor and I'm running, tripping over my sword, in order to get on to the show in time. It all seemed to be like that."

But it wasn't just the rush. Every show was created in a state of rivalry and competition. "You had to fight every week to get in, you had to prove yourself and your material every day in front of rooms full of people. If they didn't like it, you wouldn't do it. People were left out of the show every week - though that never happened to me. Thank goodness. Every Saturday at 7.30pm there was a dress rehearsal which

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## Leaks, guesses - and the mother accused of murder

The "Little Gregory" saga of murder and intrigue, which has kept France in a thrall for the past nine months, could never have happened in Britain. That is to say, the events themselves could have taken place, but not the terrible hounding of suspects by the press, the extraordinary leaks of police evidence, or the inspired guesses as to the real culprit by self-appointed experts and public personalities.

In Britain, the law of contempt of court punishes the publication of anything seriously prejudicial to a pending criminal trial.

France has no such law, with the result that anything seems to be allowed. Christine Villemin, the mother of Gregory, was being spoken of in the French press as the "murderer" of her child "several months before she was finally charged at the beginning of July. A few months before the same newspapers and magazines had been asserting that Bernard Laroche, cousin of Gregory's father, was the murderer."

The press have plagued the Vologne valley's taciturn inhabitants and members of the extensive Villemin family more remorselessly than ever did the mysterious "crow", a malevolent character, who may or may not have murdered Gregory, but who bombarded the family with threatening letters and anonymous telephone calls.

The life of Christine Villemin, in particular, has been turned into a nightmare. Yet this relatively simple country girl, aged 25, who left school at 16 to work in a factory sewing shirts, has not given in, has not broken down, has continued to protest her innocence, and has not retained a certain proud aloofness. All this despite the loss of her only child, aged four.

For some, Christine Villemin has come to appear the heroine of a Greek tragedy. Marguerite Duras, one of France's foremost living novelists, recently described her as "sublime". She wrote that it was a crime of passion, committed by a frustrated intelligent woman, who felt imprisoned by her surroundings and suffocated by her loving hard working, petit bourgeois husband.

How can Christine Villemin expect a fair jury trial when comments like that, are being made in public? Extracts from psychiatrists' reports (called for by the police) are apparently deliberately leaked to the press, describing her as "of above average intelligence, but very calculating... lacking in any maternal instinct and with a character that could lead her so far as to kill her own child".

In March the examining magistrate in charge of the investigation visited Christine Villemin in hospital, where she had been taken with a threatened miscarriage. He informed her of the psychiatrist's view that she was the "crow" and had written the final cruel letter to her husband, saying: "Look where you are now with all your toils. Your son is dead and I have my revenge." It was not until three months later that the judge felt he had sufficient evidence to charge her with the crime.

Christine did not miscarry, but four days after the magistrate's visit, Jean-Marie Villemin went to the home of his cousin, Bernard Laroche, and shot him dead in front of his pregnant wife and four-year-old son.

He then returned to his wife in hospital and collapsed in tears by her bedside saying, "I love you very much, I did it for you" and then gave himself up to the police.

In June, Jean-Marie Villemin, looking pale and emaciated, was taken from jail to re-enact the killing while a throng of journalists and bystanders looked on. Three times he was made to come out of the



Christine Villemin

bushes, where he had lain in wait, and fired point-blank at a dummy of his cousin, using the actual murder weapon to shoot blank cartridges. To what purpose, one wondered? Jean-Marie Villemin had never sought to deny the murder.

Events like that have helped to keep the story in the headlines since Gregory was found last October with his hands and feet tied, drowned in the Vologne river not far from his parents' home. But apart from the extraordinary way in which the case has often been handled, the story itself is full of drama, mystery and passion, and provides an intriguing glimpse into behind-the-scenes life in *La France profonde*.

The first scene opens shortly before 5 pm on October 16, 1984 in the village of Lépanges in the Vologne valley, when Christine Villemin arrives from work to pick up her son from his childminder. She says she drove him back to the Villemin home, a new house on the outskirts of the village, leaving him outside to play while she went in to do the ironing and listen to the radio. Twenty minutes later she looked out and he was gone. Some 10 minutes after that, her brother-in-law Michel Villemin got an anonymous telephone call from the "crow". "I have my revenge," I have put him into the Vologne," Gregory was dead.

A first, the finger pointed to Jacky, Jean-Marie Villemin's half-brother, born out of wedlock and nicknamed "the bastard". He had recently been rejected from the family circle and had a reason for revenge. He knew intimate details of the family history, to which the "crow" sometimes referred, such as Jean-Marie's grandfather having hanged himself and his grandmother having been im-

prisoned for three years after battering one of her children to death.

But Jacky had a cast-iron alibi. The police ruled him out after receiving testimony from 12 independent witnesses.

Suspicion next fell on Bernard Laroche, Jean-Marie's cousin. Handwriting experts had designated his writing as most like that of the "crow", and his wife's 15-year-old sister, Muriel, told she had accompanied Bernard Laroche to the river with Gregory on the day of the murder, and how Laroche had come back without the child. Four days later, she tearfully claimed she had been lying under pressure from the police. Laroche was nevertheless charged with the murder and imprisoned.

Three months later, doubts began to be voiced about Christine Villemin's version of events, and Laroche was released on bail. The press reported that new handwriting tests designated Christine as the "crow". Cord identical to that used to tie up Gregory was found at the Villemin home. The Villemin telephone bill was found to have risen dramatically during those periods when the "crow" was most active. Three work colleagues claimed to have seen Christine post a letter at about the time of the murder from the very box that the "crow" sent his last letter. Christine herself, it was reported, had no alibi for the crucial half-hour.

But why should she have wanted to kill her child? Christine and Jean-Marie always appeared a loving, united couple and the child bright, happy and well looked after. Everyone remembers Christine at the boy's funeral with her ravaged face and her anguished cry, "Don't go my love! Stay with me, my little child! Ever since his death, she has worn a silver medallion round her neck bearing his photo, and every night takes his toy elephant to bed with her. "How could I have murdered him? For me, he was God himself," she says.

Her critics say that it was just for show, as is the new baby she is carrying. They insist she nurtured a hatred for her husband, and the narrow Vologne valley, with its long dark winters, and dreamed of going south to the sun. Others suggest there was a secret love affair going on between her and Bernard Laroche. She herself told the police that Laroche tried to flirt with her once, before she was married, though she denied that things ever went any further. But none of these critics can bring any proof.

Christine, now six months pregnant, has been released from prison after a hunger strike, but remains charged with the murder of her child. In jail, Jean-Marie awaits trial for the murder of Laroche. The examining magistrate and all the police involved have gone into limbo and if the views of a majority of Frenchmen are anything to go by, it is likely to develop into one of those long-running French murder sagas which are never properly solved.

Diana Geddes

## Making it complicated

One hesitates to accuse the General Synod of the Church of England of flippancy but, apparently, after it voted in favour of ordaining women deacons last month the talk was all about what the new women clergy will wear. So, before they have even started work, female deacons seem to have been laid low by the Princess of Wales syndrome: a tendency to be discussed only in terms of what they have on their back.

I had hoped that since most ecclesiastical wear would look even better on a girl, without the slightest jot or tittle of alteration, women deacons would be able to shrug on a standard size cassock and get down to work, but this is not to be. Their cassocks will be nipped in at the waist with cinchure ropes and bands "specially designed for women's wear", shirts will have gussets and lace insets will be added with what seems reckless abandon. The Church Times also reports that, in America, women priests "knit jumpers in liturgical colours to carry them through the Church's year".

Impossible to imagine male clergy scheming their pullovers to accord with the liturgy or, to come to that, worrying about the cut of a cassock. Such over-attention to detail is part of the feminine condition, whose creed is that there is no situation so difficult that a little fuss, potting won't make it absolutely impossible.

There is no area of life where the feminine condition can't be relied upon to nudge us towards complete emotional and physical collapse, but it enroots itself most deeply on the domestic front. Here it causes women who are, that very evening, hosting a dinner-party for 12 people, to give up to an irresistible urge to clean out, having, it insists, to have oven bought a microwave oven in order to get ready-prepared frozen gourmet-style meals out



PENNY PERRICK

of the freezer and on to the table in two shakes of a lamb's tail, we also buy a dozen books with titles like *Cooking for Your Microwave* to ensure that we spend more time fiddling about in the kitchen than before.

It makes us refuse to go along with the simple, the uncomplicated. Which is why the much-vaunted working woman's wardrobe of suit, shirt and medium-heeled shoes never really caught on. How could we have lived with ourselves having brought our sartorial problems down to checking our lapels for grubby stains? We simply had to revert to type, tracking down the ultimate

In spite of the victory of The Wages for Housework Campaign at the Decade of Women conference in Nairobi, governments agreed to include all woman's work, paid and unpaid, in the gross national product of every country. I can't see debate on the subject being anything other than ongoing. Nothing lends itself so much to "on the one hand... on the other" responses as the thought that labours of love should be

hoop-carring, finding a shop which would dye T-shirts to match our ankle socks.

Pregnancy and childbirth are the latest conditions to have been taken over by the Make It Complicated Creed. I was told by a friend that she is about to embark on a 12-month pregnancy, the first three months of which are a sort of preparation period for pre-pregnancy.

It appears that lying back, thinking of Empire and hoping for the best is now thought of as naive to the point of wickedness. In order to have a baby with the required amount of beauty and bounce you must start eating and exercising healthily even before you conceive it. Would-be mamas are treating a book called *The Twelve Month Pregnancy* as though it were divine revelation, even though it must have the most off-putting title since 1001 Ways with Ostrich.

If it weren't for the feminine condition one would be tempted to bring out some much jollier reads, such as *How to Ignore your Pregnancy*, *Say No to the Menopause* and *Growing Old Disgracefully*. But since none of them involve suffering, inconvenience or domestic martyrdom they would be unlikely to find a market.

*The Twelve Month Pregnancy* by Stephanie Lashford is published by the Ashgrove Press at £3.95.

## For love or money?

labours of love and money. On the one hand, it would be absolutely smashing if women's work to have a value put on it. On the other, if someone is paying you for nurturing activities, will you still be allowed to sweep the dust under the doormat, stuff things labelled "hand-wash with care" into the machine and turn a blind eye when the baby sits on its vegetables? I think we should

## Hearing a lone voice

FIRST PERSON

Josephine Baxter

The other day I congratulated an acquaintance on her long-awaited second pregnancy. She smiled at me and my only child, eight-year-old Laura, and said, "We don't want Toby to be an only child."

What is Laura supposed to make of remarks like that? What is so awful about being an Only Child? The very name implies inadequacy but it carries even nastier connotations.

People cannot quite bring themselves to say, "We don't want Toby to be spoiled/lonely/selfish/over-dependent". The phrase Only Child covers it all.

Offending parents like myself not only have to put up with this unthinking rudeness, we have to suffer it in silence because any attempt on our part to point out our children's good qualities or merely average quota of bad ones would be pounced on as the over-anxious defensiveness of our kind.

The rest of the world feels entitled to view us through a jaundiced lens. Any experience of my opinion on parenting that I may try to air is met with stern admonitions - of course our daughter never had bed-time problems, it must have been incredibly easy for me managing just one child; of course she talked late, she had no stimulation from other children; of course she enjoyed our constant verbal attentions.

The list of put explanations is endless and they encourage me because they take no account whatsoever of one's skills or failings as a parent or the personality of the child.

Laura is a happy, humorous, outgoing girl with all the nice and nasty characteristics of the average eight-year-old. I would be a fool to say that being the only child in a family does not make a difference to that child's outlook and upbringing, but it is not the only factor and need not lead to the horrors traditionally implied by the Only Child.

I make no allowances for my daughter being an only child and I don't want anyone else to. The most debilitating thing we can do to our children is make constant excuses for them.

There is another side to the argument. Laura once stopped on her way home from school to help an elderly neighbour sweep her path. The neighbour, who has been sternly instructing me to "fill the cradle" for years, told me about the incident. "Of course, she'd been looking for something to do. She's a poor, lonely little thing." I took the remark as the chin but raised inside that Laura could not be given credit for a kind heart.

March of my unspoken guilt was dispelled when a friend told me that her twin boys, who were usually the best of friends, often complained of feeling lonely and would moan about at opposite ends of the house saying they never had anyone to play with.

I'm now devoted to my older sister but I'm sure she would agree that we had no time for one another when we were children. There are, of course, families, where brothers and sisters are friends but there are many others where mutual tolerance is the order of the day and I can't see that such children derive much joy from one another.

Don't be mistaken, I'm not advocating only childhood. Apart from anything else it's tiresome to be the best of so much institutionalized prejudice. There's something charming about big families. Many of my friends either have them or belong to them but I don't judge them or their children on the basis of family size and I would be obliged if they would treat me likewise.

## Last week water could have killed her

Until recently, the only water available to her was contaminated and unsafe.

For her and for so many victims of the African tragedy, Oxfam is helping to provide clean water; so far, over 30 feeding centres in Ethiopia and more than 300,000 refugees in Sudan now have safe water supplies.

But thousands more still need help. Long-term solutions rather than just emergency relief.

That's why Oxfam has launched Life-channel. It's a new scheme to fund pipes and tanks, wells and pumps.

A regular donation from you, perhaps just a few pounds per month, will provide those most in need with water to drink, to irrigate their crops, to feed their families and to help re-build their children's future.

In return, we will keep you informed of how your money is being put to work.

Please fill in the Life-channel coupon and send it off today.

## Now it's saving her life

I wish to make a regular donation to Life-channel by banker's order, and look forward to receiving your Water Projects information pack.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay Oxfam £10, £20, £50, £, each month/year, starting \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

initially by cheque.

Oxfam a/c no. 60846784 at Barclays Bank, High Street, Oxford, (20-65-31)

Debit my a/c no. (if known)

I Please accept my gift of £10, £20, £50, £, £

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Life-channel, Room TMB Oxford, FREEPOST Oxford, OX2 7JN.

Or phone 0185 56516 for credit card gift, any time.





## THE TIMES DIARY

### How low can you get?

When the Queen Mother flies over Scotland aboard Concorde tomorrow – a brilliant publicity coup by British Airways – I trust she will “keep a low profile” and not cause “an annoyance or disturbance” on board. After all, these are the conditions which have just been produced by the airline for retired staff members when applying for concessionary travel. They are disclosed by Heathrow sales agent Hazel Cox, who is outraged by a document her mother has just received. “DO NOT stir up travel shops of brochures and timetables. DO NOT cause annoyance or disturbance. DO NOT specifically ask for the supervisor, and DO keep a low profile on the ground and in the air.” Miss Cox says of the document – produced by BA’s so-called welfare services: “I feel it is insulting and patronising to send out a list like this to the people who have made our company what it is today.” Quite so.

● Liberal MPs have finally solved the problem of how to reply to a Young Liberal motion at this year's party conference calling on David Steel to desist from recommending honours. They have nominated Sir Russell Johnston to reply from the platform.

### Skinned

The Plymouth Drake local Labour Party has passed a unanimous resolution condemning Labour Tyneside spokesman Gwyneth Dunwoody for becoming parliamentarianism to the British Fur Trade Association at £4,000 a year as first reported in the Diary. The constituency management committee says the Fur Trade Association “has interests that are contrary to those of the Labour Party, committed as it is to the outlawing of blood sports and the hunting of wild animals for vanity and profit.” Bob Turpin of the constituency party says: “Thank you very much for your report. I must admit that I didn't believe it at first. But I checked the story with the *Guardian* and they assured me it was true.” He giveth, and he taketh away.

### Protest as usual

After months negotiating with the authorities for passports, a dissident Polish theatre group now has nowhere to perform during the Edinburgh Festival. The Eight Day Theatre Company prima donnishly decided that their planned venue in the city's Assembly Rooms did not meet their needs, even though the Rooms are quite acceptable to the official Polish troupe, Teatr Nowy. After years of samizdat performances in Polish churches, it now looks as though Eight Day will end up performing in a Kirk.

BARRY FANTONI



### Uneasy alliance

Some ammunition for Neil Kinnock in his battle against black sections. The Enfield and Barnet branch of the National Front has just passed a motion welcoming their establishment “as the first stage in the alignment of British politics on racial lines.” The motion, to be sent to the Labour Party, adds: “These sections clearly indicate both the inability and unwillingness of blacks to integrate into British society.”

● The Institute of Taxation is holding a one-day conference in London this November on “Family Planning”: financial, I presume.

### Disarray

The BBC's top brass reacted swiftly to the letter from BBC documentary producers in *The Times* on Friday lamenting the cancellation of the Sinn Féin programme. All 27 signatories (only a dozen names were printed) were summoned by TV managing director Bill Cotton to be given a dressing down for breaking ranks. Unrepentant, the producers intend to discuss motions of no confidence in the board of governors and the board of management at a meeting today.

### Precedent

Those with long memories can recall another occasion when the BBC bowed to government pressure and banned a programme. In 1950 the BBC chairman, Lord Simon, cancelled the second broadcast of *Party Manners*, a light comedy by Val Gielgud. At the time, the programme was in the throes of a Labour Party conference – considered the play politically biased, and at least one Labourite BBC producer threatened to resign if it went on. Lord Simon obligingly cancelled the play – and was forced to apologise in the House of Lords to quell the uproar. PHS

# Nuclear free – at a price

The big spenders are doomed, but David Regan calls for action against the many other town halls muscling in on defence and foreign policy



signs at £100 each. One can find examples of this kind of expenditure in the other metropolitan counties too.

One might be tempted to think that the GLC and the metropolitan counties have lavished public funds on these inappropriate purposes because they have had too few real responsibilities. Machiavelli pointed out that just as a ship might be threatened by a whale unless it is thrown a barrel to play with, so powerful persons in a state with too little to occupy them might prove disruptive. If this were the case then the problem would be almost over. With the royal assent to the abolition Bill, the fate of the GLC and the six metropolitan counties is sealed.

Unfortunately, in the last few years, anti-nuclear extravagance has spread like a contagious epidemic to local authorities of all kinds, even those responsible for a wide range of important local services. Much of this expenditure has been stimulated by the “nuclear-free zone” movement, which effectively began when Manchester declared itself a “nuclear-free zone” in November 1980.

The city launched a campaign to persuade other local authorities, first in Britain and then overseas, to take the same step and it still runs the Nuclear Free Zones National Steering Committee, with its chief executive as the secretary.

So far some 173 British local authorities have declared themselves “nuclear-free zones” and have taken part in the extensive series of meetings, conferences and publi-

cations which the movement has promoted. Manchester also hosted the first international “nuclear-free zones” conference. The second was held at Cordoba earlier this year; 50 councillors from 26 British local authorities attended at a cost to the ratepayers of £20,000.

When a local authority purports to declare itself a “nuclear-free zone” it has no legal or practical consequence. The point of such declarations is to provide an excuse for anti-nuclear propaganda – road signs, posters, pamphlets, conferences, festivals and much else. Many local authorities pay considerable direct and indirect subsidies to unilateralist organizations. The most active anti-nuclear local authorities also incur substantial expenditure on their own account. It is difficult to calculate accurately how much all this has cost the public but it must run into many millions of pounds.

Much or all of this expenditure may be technically legal. Local authorities have various discretionary powers in expenditure, for instance to spend up to the product of a 2p rate on objects which in their opinion are in the interests of some or all of their area or its inhabitants.

However, even if this expenditure is within the law it is a distortion of the status quo of local government in our political system. For local authorities to conduct a multi-million pound propaganda campaign on defence is as inappropriate as it would be for a local authority to open an embassy in Albania or purchase anti-aircraft missiles. Some local authorities are now being exploited to serve political ends far removed from their responsibilities.

Those like me who have a strong commitment to the value and importance of local government must be worried by these developments. They help to establish a political Aangan stable in local government that will require far more profound purification measures than ratecapping and the abolition of the GLC.

● *Times Newspapers Limited, 1985*  
The author is Francis Hill professor of local government at the University of Nottingham, who is conducting a survey of anti-nuclear expenditure by local authorities on behalf of *Peace Through Nato*.

## David Bernstein on the fear that Israel's leaders are reluctant to acknowledge

# Exodus, from the land that has lost its promise

conveniently, are never included in the emigrant statistics.”

Of potentially greater concern than the number of emigrants is the perceptible change in their nature.

Since the mid-1960s it has become increasingly plain that most emigrants no longer comprised failed immigrants returning to their countries of origin. Lahiris, who now runs an organization that has been lobbying vigorously for a more serious approach to the problem, says the statistics show that an increasing number of emigrants are established Israelis.

They are mostly young men, born into the large underprivileged families who arrived in Israel during the mass exodus from North Africa in the early 1950s who find on completing national service that they have only a rudimentary education, no trade or profession, poor job prospects in a crisis-ridden economy, and no hope at all of the \$30,000 plus it would take to buy even the most modest home and start a family.

They fall easy prey to the lure of better opportunities abroad, especially in the US and Canada, where many of them enter on tourist visas and stay illegally. Most find little difficulty in getting work in the Israeli ghettos that have sprung up, especially in New York and Los Angeles, where established former Israelis are only too pleased to pay them wages well below the legal rate but still slightly attractive compared with what they would have received at home. By the late 1970s, Lahiri says, emigrants of this type made up

some 90 per cent of Israelis leaving the country.

In the 1980s, something even more disturbing has started to emerge. More and more established middle-class Israelis have begun to emigrate – kibbutzniks, army officers, even skilled professionals who are increasingly prepared to leave for better jobs abroad, where the professional challenges are greater and the financial rewards incomparably better.

Lahiris estimates that emigrants of this type now make up some 15 per cent of Israelis leaving the country, a brain drain the country can ill afford, especially when its one hope of salvation lies in developing sophisticated high-technology industries.

The government has tried to stem the tide by making it difficult for Israelis to sell their homes and get the proceeds out of the country. In the past, this money could be placed in a special blocked account and transferred abroad over a period of five years. Today all an Israeli can take legally is his \$800 travel allowance.

However, private brokers, for a fee, exploit loopholes in the law – for example, by selling property in Israel to immigrants who pay with funds they still have in their countries of origin.

This is all part of the phenomenon Lahiri calls *Roth Kahan*, literally “small head”; an increasing concern with one's own personal life which, especially since the controversial war in Lebanon, has reportedly been making inroads into

the number and the calibre of candidates prepared to volunteer for officer courses and other demanding tasks in the armed forces.

For a long time he felt really bitter against Regan, but looking back he reckons it did him good. He makes a wry face at how that sounds, reflects a moment, and then says: “No, I've got to say it, that's how I feel.”

In his family, they always worked, even as children – detasselling corn, doing paper rounds. His past year in Crete has been spent working. An international young peoples' grapevine passes on the names of cafes where farmers wanting cheap labour for the winter go to hire young Americans, Australians and North Europeans (illegally, of course).

The work was back-breaking: humping heavy sacks of olives down steep hillsides. But then the farmer allowed him to stay on for nothing, sleeping in a loft, to enjoy the summer – so it was worth it in the end. He wrote the beginnings of a screenplay, and learnt enough Greek

This was disguised throughout the 1970s by the large-scale immigration of Soviet Jews, which has now tapered off from a high of \$1,000 in 1979 to fewer than 1,000 last year.

The result is that for the past two years emigrants have outnumbered immigrants. Net emigration in 1984 was 17,000, a figure that has caused some public concern. According to recent projections, it could be as high as 30,000 this year.

The trend is unmistakable, and there can be little doubt that the fear of giving further momentum to emigration lies somewhere behind what many economists, both in Israel and abroad, view as the government's kid-glove approach to an economic crisis which, they believe, requires much more drastic corrective measures than those contemplated so far – even at the price of mass unemployment. But this a price that Peres has made it plain he is not prepared to pay.

## Can the BT watchdog ever bite?

The battle lines have been drawn for a confrontation which will determine whether the 20 million British telephone subscribers will have their interests properly protected by a sufficiently powerful watchdog.

On the consumer side, opposing the might of the public telephone utility, is the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel) which came into being a year ago. The office was spawned by the same legislation which was to make the privatization of British Telecom a reality.

OfTel was a vital part of the privatization equation. It was to allay the fears of politicians from all parties that a privately owned British Telecom would be keener on chasing profits than on providing a service for the public good. It is now becoming clear that OfTel does not have enough power to bring the giant British Telecom to heel.

There have been three conflicts between the two in the last year. The first arose over British Telecom's intense desire to be protected from foreign competition for three years to allow them to “catch up”, he claimed. A day later British Telecom dismissed OfTel's recommendations. Now the industry waits to see whether the challenge will be taken a stage further.

By the spring of this year British Telecom, flushed with the success and freedom of privatization, had begun to expand its operation internationally. It announced plans to acquire Miel, a Canadian manufacturer of telephone equipment.

OfTel was once again displeased. British manufacturers might be bullied into cheap deals since British Telecom's own supply arm in the form of Miel would be able to exert pressure. OfTel had no power to act to prevent the proposed merger. Instead it passed its recommendation to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which is currently studying the partnership and is to announce its conclusion within the next six months.

Most recently OfTel's director-general, Professor Bryan Carsberg, questioned the wisdom of British Telecom buying from overseas suppliers in large quantities. British manufacturers should be protected from foreign competition for three years to allow them to “catch up”, he claimed. A day later British Telecom dismissed OfTel's recommendations. Now the industry waits to see whether the challenge will be taken a stage further.

The substance of these issues is less important than the fact that the phone company can so easily dismiss the watchdog's recommendations: in the last year it has



Carsberg still groping

seemed that, even when using most of its powers, OfTel has been at most a mere irritant. Its authority derives from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who uses his discretion in picking up OfTel's recommendations. OfTel must wait while the government – still the major British Telecom shareholder – decides whether to block the corporation's substantial proposed foreign purchases.

Without OfTel where is the consumer? It was OfTel which inherited the responsibilities pre-

viously held by the Post Office National Users Council. The office was also meant to have a broader brief, ensuring that BT did not breach its operating licence; that it did not engage in unfair competition and abuse its size and that its tariff was increased according to an agreed code setting it three percentage points behind the rate of inflation.

OfTel's director-general never lacked enthusiasm for the fight. As a professor of accountancy at the London School of Economics, Carsberg had advised the government on telecommunications policy; it caused little surprise when he took the new job of a three-year secondment. He is a proponent of competition and sees it as the ultimate control over BT.

Yet not long after his appointment last year he showed that he was aware of the conflicts to come against an adversary growing more powerful both commercially and politically with each passing day. “The challenge is to make things better than they would otherwise be and have been in the past. We are groping our way towards that ideal.”

Carsberg knows where he must go and he is patient. It ought to be clear that this watchdog must have a bite. Without teeth, the battle for the consumer will be lost.

Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent

Anne Sofer

## Best of both worlds

Let me try to describe the young American who has been staying with us. Brontized by a year in Greece, bleached hair falling to his shoulders, he lies in our garden in his faded Bermuda shorts reading *Hamlet*. His ambition is to be an actor – indeed he has spent two years at the American Academy of Dramatic Art in Los Angeles – but somehow he has never read the play. He races through it before going off to see the Royal Shakespeare Company production at the Barbican, by which he is greatly excited and impressed.

He phones home, reversing the charges. His family are pulling out stakes in his native Illinois and moving “out west”. He is one of a family of 10. His mother married at 16, and then left his father at the age of 24, taking six children with her. Steven remembers her working nights, and during the day pulling her bed across the door of their apartment so that the children couldn't get out while she slept.

Five years later she married again, to a young man of 22 (Steven's present age), and had four more children. The family lived on welfare. Of the six children who are grown up, three have had at least part of a college education, two have gone into the army, and one works in a factory.

This last – the oldest – is by far the wealthiest. In fact he is the one who lent Steven the money for his trip to Europe. His wages are high because the work is exceptionally dirty and unhealthy. Steven himself wouldn't touch it: he has strong views about the environment and health. He knows all about the mercury poisoning you get from dental fillings and the awful things pasteurised milk does to your colon. He scours London (unsuccessfully) for unpasteurised milk and organically – and cooperatively grown – vegetables.

When he started college, Jimmy Carter was president and student financing was generous, but then Reagan got in and chopped it. Steven can remember going almost in tears to his professor and saying he would have to leave (or “drop”, as the argot has it now). But instead he went out and earned his keep, waiting on tables and doing “yard work”, heavy work in wealthy peoples' gardens.

For a long time he felt really bitter against Regan, but looking back he reckons it did him good. He makes a wry face at how that sounds, reflects a moment, and then says: “No, I've got to say it, that's how I feel.”

In his family, they always worked, even as children – detasselling corn, doing paper rounds. His past year in Crete has been spent working. An international young peoples' grapevine passes on the names of cafes where farmers wanting cheap labour for the winter go to hire young Americans, Australians and North Europeans (illegally, of course).

The work was back-breaking: humping heavy sacks of olives down steep hillsides. But then the farmer allowed him to stay on for nothing, sleeping in a loft, to enjoy the summer – so it was worth it in the end. He wrote the beginnings of a screenplay, and learnt enough Greek

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

moreover... Miles Kingston

## Scoring points across the Dart

By the time it gets to the sea the River Dart is wide, though still fast-flowing, but just before the mouth of the river the last stretch becomes a big inland harbour. Facing each other across the river, where it starts to narrow, are the two towns of Kingswear and Dartmouth. Dartmouth is a grand little historic town, dominated at the top by the Britannia Naval College, a bit like a rural Alexandra Palace. Kingswear is not half so impressive, just a pleasant jumble of cottages and a railway station.

The consequence is that if you want to enjoy a good view of Dartmouth, you have to live in Kingswear. Well, this is always the problem if you want a good address. The Royal Crescent at Bath has been called the grandest street in England, but the view from it is of garages and council housing – it's the council tenants who get the view of the Crescent. But there's more to living in Kingswear than just looking at Dartmouth, according to Brian, whom I met in the Steam Packet pub last Monday.

“They're a funny lot in Dartmouth,” he told me. “A bit parochial, a bit Parochial and out of touch. Well, they can't help it, poor things. They're the far side of the river from civilization, so uncivilized that I believe they even get the odd Cornishman there. Kingswear's different, you see – this was the end of the line from London, where the Torbay Express finished every day, and even though there's no through line any more we feel that London's not far away.”

On the wall of the pub are photographs of Kingswear as it was 100 years ago, with muck on the streets and Victorian ladies trying to keep their dresses out of it. One of the ladies is Meryl Streep.

“Yes, they filmed *The French Lieutenant's Woman* here, got the place all tarted up and untidied specially for it. Meryl Streep flew in by Concorde one day, stood outside the pub, then flew back to America so we didn't see much of her. But I never heard of anyone being flown in special to Dartmouth.”

Under pressure, Brian admitted that in his 55 years in Kingswear he had actually been to Dartmouth once or twice.

“When I was a lad I used to go across the ferry to the dances in Dartmouth. At round about twenty to eleven, the cry used to go up in

to engage in simple political discussions.

He regards political discussion as a very exciting activity: in fact he started our children by telling them how lucky they were to have parents who would talk about politics *all evening*. His own political position is probably best described as “Kennedy liberal”. He grew up in an atmosphere of entrenched, but opposing views: one grandmother is an ardent Democrat, the other an even fiercer Republican.

Religious fundamentalism runs deep in his community. But there is also plenty of sin and scandal – unmarried pregnancies, teenage drug rings, suicide, alcoholism. One alcoholic relative working at the same factory as his brother was “saved” by his collusion and his employers, who somehow got legal powers to commit him to a drying-out establishment, it worked.

Steven traces his own intellectual motivation back to “this one great alternative teacher I had in fourth grade. (“Alternative” is a frequent adjective of commendation.) In high school he opted for most of the “college prep” courses; this amounts to a sort of self-selecting streaming that is operable even in a small school of about 200 students, and avoids all the invidious “allocation” to different exam courses that causes such heartache here.

He could have gone on to the state university but chose the dramatic academy instead. However, his two years there will count as “credit” towards a BA and when he gets home, if his agent has nothing for him (all serious drama students apparently have agents) he will go “back to school” in New Mexico. An aunt has offered to pay.

We met Steven because two summers ago he offered our son a lift on the San Francisco to Los Angeles highway. He was brought up always to offer lifts. His mother, being the most zealous Christian of them all, never wanted to miss an opportunity of making a convert, and one of his earliest memories is the feeling of sinking embarrassment as all the children squeezed up and the still grateful and unsuspecting victim climbed in.

Why do I find all this so fascinating? Somehow it presents a picture of unfamiliar and liberating juxtapositions: easy mobility, but nonetheless deep cultural roots; a positively Victorian Protestant work ethic combined with a most trendy environmentalism; a somebody who belongs equally to the small town and the global village; a hard life (all that forced child labour), but also an easy one (mothers on welfare; driving cars as here they might push a pram).

Above all, one senses an enviable resilience, a feeling that there is no failure that cannot be capped by a greater success, no problem to which some ingenious idea does not present a solution. Is it his youth or his nationality? As he talks, his slow and deliberate mid-West twang, one has the sense of a proliferation of fresh opportunities.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

the dance hall. Last ferry for Kingswear leaves in twenty minutes. Well, this was agony for me. By then I usually had eight women chasing after me and I had to leave them all behind. I'll tell you something: I can see any pantomime you like now, whether *Aladdin* or *Jack and the Beanstalk*, but I can never go and see *Cinderella*. It brings back too many bad memories of Dartmouth dances...”

Dartmouth has a fine water frontage, so of course the best place to see it from is Kingswear's waterfront, which is a car park. This serves a newish marina which Brian is not totally in favour of, even though it's on the Kingswear side.

“Know what I call it? I call it the Birmingham Navy. It's not really a place for yachting, more a place where people come down and spend the weekend on their boats. I would hazard a guess that not more than 8 per cent of the yachts parked there ever leave their moorings, though why people spend more than £15,000 on a boat and then tie it to a plank for the rest of its life is beyond me. Did you know, by the way, that there used to be direct trains from Kingswear to Cardiff and Leeds? They never even had trains at Dartmouth. They had a station, did you know that? It used to be in the *Guinness Book of Records*. I believe Dartmouth was the only place that had a ticket office, parcels office and everything, but no trains; they had to come to Kingswear for that.”

There is still a station at Kingswear, at the southern end of the Torbay and Dartmouth Railway, seven miles. But there are moves afoot to sell the station for development as flats and build a new one 300 yards further from the ferry.

“Bloody stupid idea,” Brian said. “They say the wooden station is falling down, only kept up by the woodworm holding hands together. Rubbish. When they knocked the signal box down, I got hold of some of the wood from that, and it was so hard I couldn't get nails into it, so chances are the station is just as strong.”

I suppose that if I had stayed the night in Dartmouth, this piece would have come out entirely differently. But I know one thing: the standard of spiky pub chat there would have to be very good to rival Kingswear's.



for both ds

THE TIMES  
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.  
Telephone: 01-837 1234

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## TIME TO GO IN

Sterling's latest little tumble on the currency markets demonstrates the costs of the present confusion about Britain's exchange rate policy. We are on an interest rate ratchet. To industry's grief, we find that interest rates have to go up sharply to check the pound's bouts of weakness, but fall little while the pound is strong.

This ratchet effect is exacerbated by suspicions about the Chancellor's intentions. This time last year, he was thought to be nudging the pound down in order to boost exports and sustain the economic recovery, a belief that led to the crisis of last January. This spring, he was supposed to be nudging the pound up in order to suppress inflation. Now, sterling's renewed weakness is generally thought to mean that he must brake the decline in interest rates when it has hardly begun, in order to prevent last year's suspicions gripping the markets again and sending the pound down again towards crisis levels.

The confusion in the markets, and anger in industry, is to some extent the Government's own fault. We have an on-off monetary policy and an on-off exchange rate policy. At one moment, the Chancellor is saying that monetary growth must be hauled back to the midpoint of his target ranges; at another, he is nonchalantly dismissing a persistent overshoot of the broader monetary aggregates on the grounds that the figures are grossly distorted.

Through all this confusion, two points have become clear. One is that the longest-standing of the Government's monetary measures, sterling M3, has become virtually useless, and present-day monetary policy rests on internal interpretation of a wide range of monetary indicators. This acts neither as a discipline on inflationary expectations, nor as a control on jumpy Treasury ministers. The second is that the markets have come increasingly to look to the exchange rate to provide both; that the Government is equally preoccupied with sterling; and that it is here clarity must be restored to policy.

There is only one sensible way for the Government to do so, and that is by putting sterling into its proper place in the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System. In today's monetary world, swept by financial flows in and out of the United States, the British Government cannot sensibly attempt to stabilize its exchange rate against the dominant dollar. Nor can little Britain sensibly attempt to go it alone, with a handful of foreign exchange reserves, and pursue a target for the overall, trade-weighted measure of our exchange rate, the sterling index. But there does exist a port of relative stability for sterling in Europe. We are half in, as members of the fund and framework of the EMS, and it is a good fortune (which may not last much longer) that today's full members of the exchange-rate mechanism still want us to join.

The Government's official

position since 1979 has been that it was waiting to join when the "time was ripe". This excuse has come to look pretty silly in Europe, and indeed there have been times when the Government seemed to recognize that the time for stability had come. Intermittently, it has appeared to shadow the EMS at somewhere between DM3.75 and DM3.85. This is the rate at which it is conventionally assumed that British industry can compete effectively with West Germany's. It is also the range into which the pound's latest fall has brought the exchange rate, after a drop of some 16 pence in a single week.

A "shadow" exchange rate strategy however offers Britain neither the advantages of consistency, since it can be overturned by each new whim of the Government, nor the support of our European neighbours. It does not offer British industry what it needs: some security about the rate at which it can expect to trade in what is ever more becoming our most important market. This insecurity can only increase as the next general election approaches. Without a clear discipline, the markets will be torn between confusion about the Government's intentions and fears about its possible successor's.

The European Monetary System is an exercise in the art of the possible. It does not attempt to stabilize exchange rates with currencies outside the European Community. It merely sets fluctuation limits (of varied widths) for internal exchange rates between members of the same common market. We may now, after a period of exceptional stability in these rates, be entering one in which realignments are on occasion necessary. This is not a defect, but an essential compromise between the opposite dangers of inflexibility and lack of discipline.

The excuses which have masqueraded under the doctrine of unripe time are spent. Britain's monetary policy has reached the stage where it could operate quite as well within the constraints of EMS as on its erratic present course. It used to be argued that inflationary Britain could not chain itself to West Germany, where inflation is only a touch above 2 per cent, without ruining industry. But Britain's underlying inflation rate has been running at about 5 to 6 per cent for some years now. It is at least the Government's declared intention to bring it down to 3 per cent by the next election, an aim which EMS membership would support.

At the other end of the argument, it would be singularly foolish for the Government to be put off by those supporters so mistaken as to believe EMS is a recipe for looser policies. That it is not. It is a recipe for greater consistency, in place of the present ratchet. The Government has not got long in which to decide to make the attempt, as we roll towards the financial dangers of a long and confused election campaign. The time, which is now ripe, will soon be rotten.

## Why riot charges were not pressed

**From Mr. Lionel Bloch**  
Sir, Although the competent authorities in this country have a fairly wide discretion in instituting or dropping criminal proceedings, the arguments put forward by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire (July 31) for abandoning the trials of those charged with riot and unlawful assembly during the miners' strike are as unconvincing as they are unwise.

His first argument is "due to the passage of time and the confusion and chaos which by their very nature accompanied these disturbances, they are difficult for witnesses to recall and relate". But surely the evidence was available at the time of arrest and should have been put down in writing.

Written statements and a very considerable amount of newspaper reports should be available to substantiate the charges. This kind of evidence does not wither, even if the hearing takes place two years after arrest.

The second argument put forward by the Chief Constable is that the trials "would undoubtedly be widely reported and the subject of much political comment". Quite so, but this is hardly a reason for those who are charged with such serious offences to get away practically scot-free.

There remains the question, of course, as to whether, regardless of the evidence, juries would convict. But there are established procedures for dealing with juries who return a perverse verdict.

By far the most disturbing argument advanced by Mr. Wright is that this publicity would "overshadow and disrupt the efforts of all those attempting to put the dispute behind them". When, then, is a crime not a crime? When politically motivated minorities shout loud enough?

If this, and the notion of "unfinality", should become an acceptable criterion for not enforcing the rule of law, then what is to deter large-scale violence and public disorder in the future? All that our revolutionaries will have to do is to ensure that their riots are widespread enough.

LIONEL BLOCH,  
9 Wimpole Street, W1.  
July 31.

## Recalling VJ Day

**From the Bishop of Malmesbury**  
Sir, In response to Lord Chelwood's letter, published on July 30 I am writing to say the Archbishop of Canterbury shares his hope that many churches will think it appropriate this year to make some special commemoration in the course of their services of those who were victims of the Second World War in the Far East. Such services would be by local arrangement.

The great service in Westminster Abbey last May, arranged by the Dean of Westminster, was a commemoration of the "end of the Second World War". Among churchmen attending was one of the Anglican bishops from Japan, and in the course of the service the Archbishop made special reference to the horror and heroism of the war which stretched into the Far East.

But the Archbishop understands how easy it is for those who fought in the Far East, and suffered as a result of the conflict there, to feel forgotten. Their number was considerable and the price they paid was great. It is proper that they should be particularly remembered as we approach the 40th anniversary of the ending of hostilities throughout the world.

Yours truly,  
RONALD GORDON,  
Lambeth Palace, SE1.  
August 2.

## Vanished gateways

**From Mr. W. J. Brush**  
Sir, I was delighted to see your report (July 29) of plans to rebuild the Seven Dials column. Might I also put in a plea for another vanished Covent Garden landmark?

The great porico of Inigo Jones's church of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, was originally flanked by a pair of very handsome gateways to the churchyard behind, one of which was still standing as late as 1920. They reappeared in the GLC's plans for the restoration of the Market, but this part of that excellent plan was never carried out.

The gateways were an integral part of Jones's original layout. As one of them survived long enough to be photographed and there are measured drawings of them both, it would be feasible to rebuild one or both of them. Their return would add greatly to the appearance of that part of Covent Garden, as well as providing reader access to the church and churchyard of St. Paul's, both under-used.

Yours faithfully,  
W. J. BRUSH,  
Cleves Architects Partnership,  
The Coach House,  
Great Bourton,  
Banbury,  
Oxfordshire.

## War in the Gulf

**From the Ambassador of Iraq**  
Sir, By stating, without explanation, that President Saddam Hussein "started the conflict" with Iran, Robert Fisk (feature, July 31) gives the impression that Iraq engaged in some kind of unprovoked aggression; but this is very far from the truth as Iraq had absolutely no wish to go to war but was forced to do so by "immense military attacks on Iraqi territory by Iran's armed forces prior to Iraq's determined action on September 22, 1980."

This step was necessary in order to prevent Iran from over-running the country and, indeed, Robert Fisk emphasises the necessity of Iraq's

## Dropping of McGuinness film by BBC

**From Mr. John Evershed**  
Sir, The BBC's finances are politically controlled. Its programming standards and values are nevertheless frankly commercial in their appeal to a mass public.

Its editorial staff see no harm in spending public money on providing a platform for terrorists. And its governors see no danger in instant compliance with direct Government dictation on programme content.

Are we not getting the worst of all possible worlds, and is it not time for a change?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN EVERSHED,  
Avenue Montana 23,  
1800 Bruxelles,  
Belgium.  
July 31.

**From Dr. G. A. Low-Beer**  
Sir, Your article "Confusion of roles" (August 1) does not do justice to the despair many of us feel at the banning of the television programme on Northern Ireland. Sinn Féin and its remarkably like-minded Protestant counterpart are established political forces in the United Kingdom. The British people have a right to be exposed to their views.

The vast majority will hear these views with the disgust and contempt they deserve. Those who are susceptible to political violence will not be persuaded one way or another by any programme the BBC might transmit; they will be converted in selected public houses in Belfast and Londonderry.

The real cause for despair is the pale near-unanimity with which the board of governors yielded to Government pressure (Mr. Alwyn Roberts being the honourable exception). There was no resignation and seemingly no idea of the harm that such a decision would cause to the national and international standing of the BBC.

Having surveyed the damage they have done, the board of governors, and in particular its chairman, should now resign and leave room for men and women who know how to defend one of our most cherished liberties, the liberty of information.

Cours truly,  
G. A. LOW-BEER,  
Horton Hospital,  
Long Grove Road,  
Epsom, Surrey.  
August 2.

**From the Bishop Suffragan of Malmesbury**  
Sir, Whether the BBC should have included an Irish terrorist in the programme *At the Edge of the Union* is debatable. What is certain is that the country has lost more by its banning than by its showing.

The IRA has gained publicity and become intriguing by what the *Irish Times* have said. The credibility of overseas broadcasts has

## Lords majority

**From the Opposition Chief Whip in the House of Lords**  
Sir, It would seem an appropriate time with the start of the Parliamentary summer recess, to examine the Government's oft repeated claim that "in almost every case and in almost every way of looking at it, the Government do not have an overall majority in the House of Lords."

This statement is based on the fact that of the 943 peers eligible to vote in divisions in the House of Lords the Government Chief Whip only extends to 413.

Of the 626 peers expressing a political allegiance the Government has an overall majority, but when the Independent or Cross Bench peers, the bishops and the law lords are included in the total, the Government's majority becomes a minority.

However, these figures take no account of the ability or inclination of peers to attend. I would suggest attendance and voting records give a better indication of the political complexion of the House of Lords.

During the course of the Local Government Bill, which lasted for 19 parliamentary days, there were 40 divisions and whipping of peers took place on an unprecedented scale. Any peers who did not vote at any time during the Local Govern-

**Unitary tax**  
**From Mr. Alan Reid**  
Sir, The Government's acceptance of Mr. Michael Grylls's amendment (report, July 11) to provide retaliation unless certain states, particularly California, drop the application of their unitary tax regime to British companies is rather more subtle than either of them seems prepared to admit publicly. Its chances of being successful are correspondingly greater.

The American tax system provides for US companies to set-off foreign taxes suffered against their UK tax liability. To the extent that the foreign tax rate is less than the American, the balance has to be paid over to the American Treasury.

By the time that the amendment comes into force, the UK tax rate is likely to be 35 per cent, as against the US one of 46 per cent. The effect of the tax credit repayment is to

reduce the effective UK tax rate to around 24 per cent. In other words, the only effect on US companies is to increase their tax payment to the US Treasury. The withdrawal of this repayment therefore, reduces the amount they need to hand over to the US Treasury but does not increase their overall tax liability.

The Government's intention, in adopting the amendment, is to deprive the US Treasury of around £500 million at a time when the US Administration is already struggling to find ways to close the budget deficit. With this price tag, it will be interesting to see just how little influence the federal government has in influencing states' rights, which has been the argument so far against any federal intervention in the unitary tax argument.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN REID,  
KMG Thomson McIntock,  
70 Finsbury Pavement, EC2.

watch their wives being gang-raped by Saddam's security men. Some prisoners have had to witness their children being tortured in front of them.

It is utterly reprehensible that some journalists are quite prepared, without any supporting corroboration, to repeat wild, unfounded allegations about countries such as Iraq which they would never dream of making about certain other countries, even when there might be more justification for such allegations.

Yours faithfully,  
WAHBI AL-QARAGHULI,  
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq,  
177 Tottenham Court Road, W1.  
July 31.

## Real issues of ritual slaughter

**From the Reverend A. L. Birbeck**  
Sir, The reactions so far of spokesmen and women of the Jewish and Muslim communities in the various media illustrate, I think, some of the difficulties in approaching objectively the animal welfare issues associated with religious slaughter. Indeed, we may find it is impossible to be objective for the sort of reasons referred to in your admirable leading article (July 31).

Accusations such as that from the General Secretary of the Union of Muslim Organisations (in the same edition) that the report "was motivated by prejudice against religious minorities" are unhelpful in the extreme and, as a matter of absolute fact, quite untrue. Our concern was, and had to be, wholly with animal welfare.

Because we recognised the sensitivities and difficulties, the main recommendation is couched in a way which we hope will allow and encourage those concerned to explore ways of adapting practices whilst still meeting essential principles of care and concern for animals. I myself hope that in a liberal and tolerant society, issues may be addressed and real attempts made to overcome difficulties associated with them.

Yours sincerely,  
A. L. BIRBECK, Chairman,  
Religious Slaughter Working Group,  
Farm Animal Welfare Council,  
Block B, Government Buildings,  
Hook Rise, South Tolworth,  
Surrey, Surrey.  
August 1.

**From Mr. Daniel Adams**  
Sir, I am convinced that the many peace-loving citizens of this province would be delighted and relieved if the media forgot about us for a while.

In arguing about the rights and wrongs of putting out a programme which would doubtless afford the caricatures of both camps, yet another golden opportunity to parade their prejudices, the media journalists pay scant regard to the feelings of the silent and much-abused majority. We who live in and love this country, and who have put up with more than 16 years of murderous mayhem, wish to be left in peace by press, radio and television alike.

At the same time, those in high places who periodically publicise their conviction that terrorism here is all but licked should check this week with the poor people of Ballymahinch in County Down.

Let the authorities speak solely through their actions: their vocal bragging always seems to trigger off further horrendous deeds as the men of violence seek to refute their claims.

Yours faithfully,  
DANIEL ADAMS,  
97 Priory Park,  
Belfast.  
August 1.

**From Mr. D. E. G. Reddon**  
Sir, Although many companies will welcome the recommendations of the recent report by Mr. Kenneth Warren's House of Commons trade and industry committee, they still require a more positive lead by the Government. Increased embassy staff and better British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) support are all essential ingredients to improve our international competitiveness.

The 48 Group has assisted its member companies to trade with China for over 30 years and has been at the forefront of advocating that China should be excluded from the Committee of the Consultative Group for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) restrictions.

A previous Conservative government withdrew Britain unilaterally from the special embargo against China in 1957. Similar action today would widen the scope of UK exports - particularly in the "high tech" range - an area where there is a need to remain at the forefront of world development.

British industry can provide a positive commitment to this vast potential market, but it needs effective Government response if it is to maximise the total opportunities.

Yours faithfully,  
D. REDDON, Chief Executive,  
The 48 Group,  
84/86 Rosebery Avenue, EC1.  
July 18.

## Trade with China

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Yours faithfully,  
D. REDDON, Chief Executive,  
The 48 Group,  
84/86 Rosebery Avenue, EC1.  
July 18.

## Sale room deception

**From Mr. Andrew D. Hartley**  
Sir, Geraldine Norman's article, "Who will put the auction houses in order?" (July 22) raised some important points.

However, merely bringing out a new set of legal requirements will for the most part repeat what virtually all auction houses adhere to already.

The buyer's premium stands as the only item which does not seem to self-regulate, to the detriment of those vendors who naively believe that it is paid for by the buyer.

An auction sale is a noisy public place, disliked by your average villager, and the ideal method of ascertaining the market price of something which is rare, if not unique. The auctioneer's commission rates are well known, indeed the self-imposed spotlight leaves no dark corners to investigate. Yet still the myth and the mystique of the auction houses seem to perpetuate.

Contrast this with the dealers, who do not have to disclose their sources or the profit they are making. Only if they buy at auction is this information readily available. Nobody has ever questioned this state of affairs, which is presumably acceptable and anonymous that they do not present a big enough single target worth shooting at.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW D. HARTLEY,  
Deane, Sons and Hartley,  
1.5 The Grove,  
Ilkley,  
West Yorkshire.

## ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 5 1948  
The Olympic Games of 1948 - the first for twelve years, were held in London when 59 countries participated. Great Britain won three gold medals, in rowing, the double sculls and coxswain pair, and in yachting the Swallow class.

## LONDON'S OLYMPIC GAMES

The King and Queen were present at Wembley Stadium yesterday when the fifth programme of the Olympic athletics was carried out in dull but not unpleasant weather. The standards again were terrifically high, especially in the hurdles, in which the records simply flew into fragments.

Great Britain have yet to win an event, but Miss Maureen Gardner, by equalling a world record in the women's 80 metres hurdles in as good a second place perhaps as ever recorded in athletics, lightened the eclipse to some extent. The gallant effort of V. Roberts, the 36-year-old British sprinter, in a heat of the 400 metres behind Whitfield, the American, earned the general applause it deserved. Although he could not survive a further test in the second round he ran better than anyone had a right to expect, and it was nice to see several of his fellow competitors congratulate him on a second worthy effort in one afternoon.

Even without Dillard, America was able to produce the best hurdle runner to the final of the 110 metres event. Two false starts could not seriously cramp their style when the pistol eventually let them away, though Dixon clearly was the slowest starter of the three on the occasion. Still, the net result was the magnificent spectacle of these athletes, almost in line, taking the 10 hurdles so fast and so accurately that Porter's time of 14.9sec. was a new Olympic record and those of Scott and Dixon, 14.1sec. and 14.2sec. respectively, were also new world records. One can only imagine what might have happened if Dillard, the world record holder, had been in the race instead of being sent over as a sprinter in what was the first part of the act of slaughter itself.

The animal could be presented "without blemish", any necessary religious rite could be observed and then the ritual act of slaughter could begin with the stunning of the animal.

I understand that this suggestion has hitherto been rejected by the Jewish and Muslim authorities, but one can only hope that it may after all be accepted, as a means of minimising suffering without infringing any religious regulations.

I am informed that stunning before slaughter does not inhibit the bleeding of the carcass afterwards, so no objection can be raised against it on that score.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
RICHARD H. HILL,  
4 Old School,  
Henley Road,  
Ludlow,  
Shropshire.

## A THIRD OF A STRIDE

The final of the women's 80 metres hurdles was an infinitely closer thing than any British spectator could have imagined in his most hopeful moments. Drawn up on the grass in front of the main stand, Mrs. Blankens-Koen, who already had equaled her own world figures in a heat, Miss Gardner was indeed subjected to the most drastic comparison. She rose to the occasion superbly, gliding over the hurdles with the ease of a cat, and finishing with a flourish that ended in disaster in the semi-final. Mrs. Blankens-Koen always was a shade in front but there was no trace of a drawing away. It seems almost incredible but still she separated the pair at the tape - barely a third of a full stride - was indicated by the inability of the stop watch to give two different times. And what times they were! Each was credited with 14.9sec. - a new world record - the long-awaited British victory but a personal triumph for Miss Gardner nonetheless.

Two at least of the four heats in the 1500 metres further reinforced the high standards expected of any competitor at an Olympic meeting - that is if he wishes to appear in a victory ceremony, or even in a final. The fastest heat, that in which Brundage, Sweden's best chance, of France, into second place, was 3min. 51.8sec. This like the 3min. 52.4sec. accomplished by Sijthoff, of Holland, to another heat, would have been good enough to win a silver medal in the 1982. Two other Swedes won a heat, one of them the famous Lennart Strand, who refused to show his best pace even when Jorgensen, of Denmark, raced up virtually to run a dead heat. G. G. Naberwitz, of the British champion, reached the final by running second to Brisksson. The other two British runners, Wilson and Morris, were not concerned in the closing stages of this classic event of 1.640 yards or three and three-quarter laps of the Wembley Stadium.

## DANGEROUS OPPONENTS

All of the recognized champions over 400 metres except Harris, the New Zealander, who had badly injured himself the other day running in the 800 metres, emerged safely from the 12 heats in the first round and the four in the second which followed. In regular race a heat of 1.540 yards, like the Stand in the 1500 metres, refused to reveal all his magnificent but may have to best himself further more in today's semi-final. Whitfield and Roberts both ran a very close race, but Whitfield, who had looked his most dangerous opponents. Reaction, of Eire, ran a good second to Bolen, but it remains to be seen if Currita, of Australia, can greatly improve upon his running behind Wint.

## Of no importance

**From Major J. Gordon Hull**  
Sir, If Dr. Sheila Wallace (July 30) is surprised to be addressed as Esq. one must trust that in these days when sex equality is the rage the computer gets it right. After all, Martin the Newsagent regularly sends my account headed HULL M/S to 9, Fore St (9-40). No more: no less: no envelope!

Yours submissively,  
J. GORDON HULL,  
New Gifford, Abbe Tree House,  
9 Fore Street, Budeigh Salterton,  
Devon.

## Sticking point

**From Mr. D. L. B. Hartley**  
Sir, I suggest that a resumption of the import by Britain of gum arabic from the Sudan would be to the advantage of the two countries. The Sudan trade ceased when the Sudan became independent in 1956. Till then it was said that Britain had the plainest but most adhesive stamps in the world.

In each time I have to use Sellotape to reinforce the gum on a stamp, and when I read of the need to strengthen the Sudanese economy, I wonder if the trade in gum could be resumed.

Yours truly,  
D. L. B. HARTLEY,  
Ghyll Bank, Brook Road,  
Windermere, Cumbria.

## ON THEIR BIKES - AND BACK

The purpose of Mr. Fowler's alteration of the rules on lodgings payment for the young poor was never clear. Was it to encourage the mobility of young job-seekers, or rather to re-institute the ancient Acts of Settlement requiring the poor to remain in their habitual place of residence? There was evidence, mainly from London, that the Department of Health and Social Security was being defrauded.

Administrative action was needed, and should always have been directed in part at the hoteliers who were such eager participants in the fraud. But Mr. Fowler seemed most keen to palliate the "Dunrobin" vote in the resorts and went ahead with rule changes that, as some predicted, bore harshly on young poor who were neither able-bodied nor mentally fit or who, because of the circumstances of their up-bringing, quite literally had no home to return to.

Now the Secretary of State has stumbled at the bar of the High Court, and his reorganized rules need swift repair. This is a welcome judicial jolt. The judges in this and a sequence of recent decisions involving the DHSS and the Environment Department are not making social policy. Rather they are policing the great regulatory empire, to the find on this occasion that the executive has usurped a legislative function.

Of course Mr. Fowler could get his votes in Parliament. He may need - such is the elasticity of the regulatory regime - only to re-push different buttons to re-instate the rules. But he ought to pause. Perhaps this time he

should listen to his social security advisory committee, now so spiritedly led by Mr. Peter Barclay, for there really is no point in having an expert second opinion in diagnosing the ills of social security if it is not to be consulted. Above all, Mr. Fowler should focus on the effect of these rules on the supply and mobility of labour.

The social security system is a clumsy tool for engineering economic change, but it has its part to play. If there are jobs in Bournemouth, even seasonal, that is where the young jobless (more mobile because of lack of family ties) should go: the system should prod, and provide the wherewithal for job search.

But what if Bournemouth's wages won't pay for Bournemouth's accommodation. Neither Mr. Fowler nor his ministerial colleagues have been willing to face up to deficiencies in supply of low-cost rental accommodation, and their blandly unimaginative response to the Duke of Edinburgh's committee suggests they are not going to.

Meanwhile Mr. Fowler's rules impose strict cash limits on lodgings payments, the logic of which policy is to force the young poor into the lowest cost accommodation, which in many cases ultimately will be the immobile parental home. "Holidays on the dole" was never the problem. What was, and still is, is an affordable scheme of payments for accommodation for the young poor who, for the most vital human and economic reasons, must leave their parents to set up on their own.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
August 4: Mr Raymond Daw had the honour of being received by The Queen at Sandringham House today when Her Majesty decorated him with the Royal Victoria Medal (Silver).

The Duke of Edinburgh embarked in HM Yacht Britannia at Cowes this afternoon.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
August 4: Today is the Anniversary of the Birthday of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will visit the Cranleigh group in Surrey on September 26 and open their new stable, room and tack room.

Princess Anne will attend a Court meeting of the Farriers' Company and hand over the office of Master to the Master-elect on September 27. Later she will attend a Farriers' Company's annual service at St Michael Paternoster Royal and a Court dinner at Inholders' Hall.

Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend a reception and promenade concert at Brangwyn Hall, Swansea on September 28.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Home Farm Trust, will visit Fairthorn

and open the new satellite building, The Elms, Dore, Sheffield on September 30 and, as president of the Missions to Seamen, will visit Galle Mariner's Club at Humber-side.

The Duke of Kent, president of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, will visit lifeboat stations at Skegness and Spurn Point on September 20. He will later open Cavern Storage for the Color Group at Humber-side, and, as patron, attend the Royal Television Society's convention in Cambridge.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the Samaritans' annual conference at York University, on September 20.

The Duchess of Kent will attend the Nestlé Company's junior tennis finals at Queen's Club, on September 21.

The Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Pilkingtons St Asaph, North Wales on September 23 and later chairmen of the United Kingdom Committee of European Music Year, will attend the St Asaph Festival.

The Duchess of Kent will open a new building, the new student accommodation unit, at Buckingham University.

The Duke of Kent, president, will attend a board meeting at the Imperial War Museum, on September 25.

The Duke of Kent, president, will visit King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, Beaumont Street, on September 26.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J.S. Bamford**  
The engagement is announced between John Stephen, son of Professor and Mrs Stuart Bamford, and Miss Alise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Williams, both of New Orleans, Louisiana, United States.

**Mr P.T.W. T. Derges**  
The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of Mr and Mrs B.W.T. Derges, of Caton, Lancashire, and Miss Alise, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.T. McAllister, of Whickham, Tyne and Wear.

**Mr J.L.J. Levis**  
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Lionel John Levis, Grenadier Guards, youngest son of Mr and Mrs L.J. Levis, of Hall House, Messingham, Lincolnshire, and Amanda Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs N.J. Findlay, The Leuchdon, South Queensferry, West Lothian.

**Mr D.P. Halse**  
The engagement is announced between Dion, elder son of Major and Mrs P.F. Halse, of Chesfield, Kent, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H.C. Bridger, of Potts Wood, Kent.

**Mr M.P. Scargill**  
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs C.P. Scargill, of Bradford, West Yorkshire, and Claire, daughter of Mr L.F. Nicholson, CB, and Mrs Nicholson, of Elstead, Surrey.

**Mr S. Walsh**  
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of the late Mr Francis Walsh and Mrs Elizabeth Walsh, of 2 Lisburn Road, Ave, and Miss Mary Gray, MA, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Gray, Broomhill, Edinburgh Road, Dumfries.

**Mr C.B. Noakes**  
The engagement is announced between Mr Barry Noakes, younger son of Mr and Mrs Stuart Noakes, of Bromley, Kent, and Miss Sheila Noakes, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.F. Masters of Eltham, London. The Rev R. Campbell-Smith officiated.

**Mr C.L.T. Temple-Richards**  
The engagement is announced between Mr Charles Temple-Richards and Miss Virginia Scott. The Rev. Andrew Henderson officiated, assisted by Dom Peter Beazley.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by John Kerr, Ralph Robertson, William Hughes, Isabel and Daisy Hamilton-Baillie, Amelia Gibbs and Lady Louise Jane Montagu Douglas Scott. Mr Mark Everett was best man.

**Mr S.R. Ayre**  
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 3, at St Mary's Church, Stowe, between Mr Simon Robert Ayre and Miss Caroline Sarah Sergeant. The Rev M.C. Stanton-Sarnger officiated. Mr Mark Jackson was best man.

**Mr D.J. Elvin**  
The marriage took place on Saturday, July 27, at the Temple Church, London, between Mr David John Elvin, only son of Mr and Mrs Walter Elvin, of Wingate, Co Durham, and Miss Helen Julia Shilling, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Maurice Shilling, of Sittingbourne, Kent.

## University news

**London**  
Appointments to chairs.  
M.H. Crawford, to the chair of ancient history at University College.

**N.W. Cresser**, to the Hilbert Carle chair of English literature at Bedford College September 1.

**D. Ganderston** to the chair of pharmacology at Chelsea College from September 1.

**L. Hudson** to the chair of immunology at St George's Hospital Medical School from May 1.

**M.S. King** to the oil industry chair of petroleum engineering at Imperial College from May 1986.

**C.B. Praceuse** to the chair of philosophy at King's College from October 1.

**A.J. Rogers** to the chair of electronics at Chelsea College (KCC) from September 1.

**G.R. Stewart** to the Quain chair of botany at University College from October 1.

**K.R. Trott** to the chair of radiation biology at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College.

**Conferment of title of professor**  
Mathematics at Royal Holloway College: N.H. Bingham.

Applied mathematics: C. Atkinson, from October 1.

Analytical pharmacology at King's College London School of Medicine and Dentistry: Sir James White, Black, from April 1.

Structural engineering at University College: J.G.A. Croft, from October 1.

Programming methodology at Imperial College: J. Darlington, from October 1.

Applied physics at University College: M.J.B. Duff, from January 1.

**South theory at Birkbeck College**  
P.O. Hirst, from April 1.

**Professor of the history of art**  
at Courtauld Institute of Art: C.M. Kaufman, from October 1.

**Modern languages of South Asia**  
at SOAS: C. Shackleton, from October 1.

**Paediatric gastroenterology** at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College and the London Hospital Medical School: R.A. Walker-Smith, from April 1.

**Aesthetics at Birkbeck College**  
R.A. Scruton, from April 1.

**History and philosophy of religion**  
at King's College: S.R. Sutherland, from March 1.

**Internal combustion engineering**  
at Imperial College: N. Watson, from October 1.

**Modern history of Western Asia**  
at SOAS: M.E. Yapp, from October 1.

**Electrical engineering** at University College: J.B. Davies, from October 1.

**Conferment of title of reader**  
from October 1: applied mathematics at University College London: C.M. Kaufman, from October 1.

**Conferment of title of professor**  
Mathematics at Royal Holloway College: N.H. Bingham.

Applied mathematics: C. Atkinson, from October 1.

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## Clifford Longley

## Parading platitudes for peace

THE international peace assembly held in London by the World Methodist Council was conceived with the dual purpose of furthering the cause of world peace and of healing a division within Methodism.

Both elements appeared in the assembly's final statement, published last week, although it is the message addressed to the church, to reconcile conflicting views, which bears most evidence of careful, or even tortuous, drafting.

The division is paralleled in all other churches, though it takes on a particular flavour in Methodism. It is between those who emphasize the state of an individual's soul as the church's primary business, and those who insist upon the primacy of social responsibility and the campaign for social justice.

The final statement refers to the two as "evangelical" and "social activist" Christians, and makes the unstarling suggestion that each approach needs the other, if Methodists are to do justice to the Gospel.

The utterance of such platitudes is not enough to close the gap, however, as the conference recognized. The theme of "peace" was designed to give both sides something other to concentrate on than the usual mutual disagreements, and was therefore a clever application of the principle that all theological argument is best conducted in the presence of the world and its specific concerns, rather than as coded communication between the tops of two ivory towers.

Peace is also a characteristic Methodist issue, for the church has been gradually moving towards an almost Quaker ethos in this area. But one substantial Methodist constituent part, the conservative evangelical tradition, seemed to be standing a little aside: hence the London conference.

The key theological note of the conference was sounded in the final statement thus: "Jesus Christ lived and died and rose again to reconcile the world to God, persons to persons, and nation to nation." Therefore, it goes on, "the challenge to Christians is to see that conversion to God includes conversion to peace-making and social transformation."

Conversion is at the heart of conservative evangelical Christianity; and this passage is therefore the central reconciling idea between the evangelicals and the social activists. It suggests that conversion narrowly understood, the personal experience of a profound change of religious consciousness, is incomplete.

The converted person should also be converted into being a "social activist", committed to peace and justice. John Wesley would have approved: in fact it was in his London chapel that the document was debated and written.

Nevertheless the reconciliation of Methodist differences, if that is what has been achieved, may have been bought at a certain cost. The theology of the document, leading up to these key passages, may be open to the criticism of Utopianism, or even Pelagianism, and the latter danger is hardly offset by reference to "constant dependence on the grace of God."

A Utopia, or perfect society, implies that all social injustice can be abolished and all mankind may live in perfect harmony. Pelagianism marginalizes original sin, and suggests that man may reach perfection by his own effort (perhaps with a little help from his God).

The Methodist peace assembly document could never be accused of pessimism; there is no hint that a large part of humanity does in fact refuse the Christian

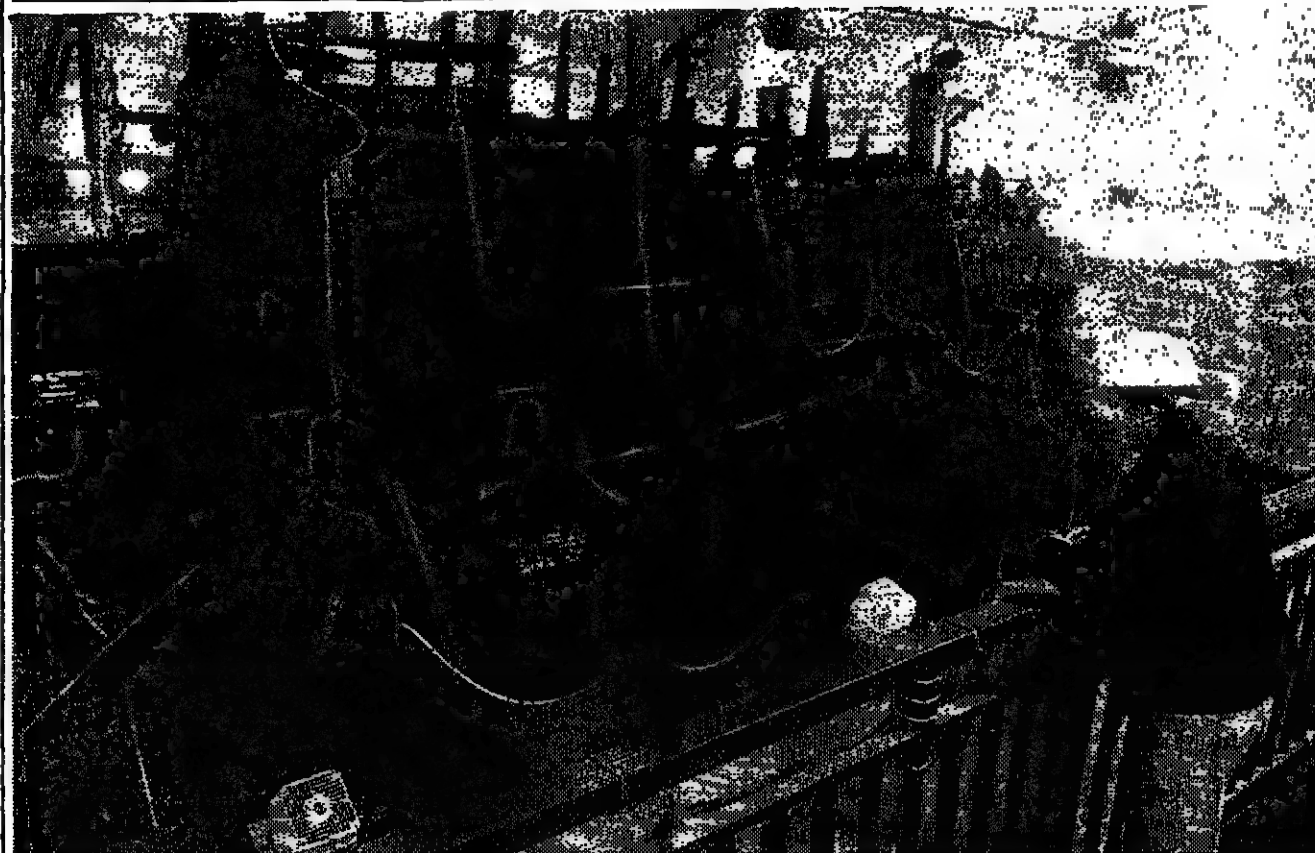
offer of redemption, and will do so to the end of time. The peace for which the Methodists hunger is the peace of Paradise, before the Fall; hungering for it is beyond criticism, but basing a theology of social activism on it could lead to disappointment.

For the "restructuring of society" and "social transformation" to which the document refers as an inescapable dimension of the Christian Gospel, calls for upheaval and conflict. The thesis in the peace assembly's final document is that once society is "restructured", the upheaval will give way to peace.

In fact, it is rather more likely to give way to further upheaval, and peace will have to be postponed indefinitely. Even a restructured and socially transformed society, whatever it might look like, will bear its own imperfections and injustices which will call for further restructuring and transformation. At no point is the task even likely to be complete.

Such doubts may not undermine the reconciliation claimed between the evangelical and the activist wings of Methodism, although it may weaken the influence of the document which presents the case for it. It is more significant that both wings subscribed to an argument which neither publicly professes, something very close to "salvation by good works", as their common theological ground for thinking about peace.

It throws an interesting light on the general question of Christian pacifism, which is decidedly a growing movement in all churches. It, too, may be tainted with "works". Sadly, mankind is not good enough to create a peaceful world, with all its evil reconciled to all others. The optimism is very attractive, but Wesley himself was more realistic.



A new view of the hull of the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's warship, which was put on an even keel last month, greeted visitors at the weekend after the opening of enlarged public galleries in the dry dock at Portsmouth. "We hope that long queues are a thing of the past", Mr Richard Harrison, the museum director, said. "The new galleries will more than double the visitor capacity."

## Latest wills

**His Honour Sir Owen Temple-Morris**, QC of Cardiff, county court judge, left estate valued at £72,844 net.

**Dr Gertrude Caton-Thompson**, of Broadway, Hereford and Worcester the archaeologist, who made a great contribution to the knowledge of African prehistory, left estate valued at £150,848 net.

**Mr Owen Davies**, of Port Talbot, west Glamorgan, left estate valued at £151,102 net. He left £3,000 cash to the RNIB and RNID, and the residue equally between the Spastics Society, Save the Children Fund, Tenovus and British Heart Foundation.

**Sir Kenneth Kennedy O'Connor**, Wimborne, Dorset, President of the Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa 1947-62, and a former Chief Justice of Kenya and Jamaica, left estate valued at £200,000 net.

Other estates include (net before tax paid):  
**Benford**, Mr William George of Holford, Middlesex, £23,658.  
**Chappell**, Mrs Katherine of Hibaldston, South Humberside, £225,059.

**Collet**, Mr Henry Gordon of Holford, Middlesex, £230,764.  
**Goulden**, Dorrie Maude of Orpington, Kent, £204,246.

**Hadley**, Mr Derek Edward of Southsea, Hampshire, £453,369.  
**Hart**, Mr Reginald Cyril of Chiddingfold, Surrey, £215,693.

**Malleson**, Lady Elia Mary of The Gateways, Chelsea, south-west London, £438,699.  
**Shall**, Mr John Joseph of Baginbun, Co. Carlow, merchant and farmer, estate in England, Wales and Republic of Ireland valued at £271,573.

**Thomas**, Mr Roger Geoffrey of Radyr, Cardiff, £208,757.

£450,000 Scottish appeal  
Sheikh helps to launch study of vanishing red grouse

By Ronald Faux

As the grouse shooting season approaches prominent Scots are being asked to rally in support of that game, but threatened, bird.

The Scottish grouse research project appeal will be launched in Edinburgh this week by the Game Conservancy to discover the reason for the steep decline in the numbers of red grouse, which is threatening the viability of many sporting estates.

The project was started with a £100,000 donation from Sheikh Hamdan al Maktoum and a research trust is seeking another £350,000 to cover the cost of the investigation, which is claimed, has important implications for the Highland economy.

The trust says the decline of birds in Scotland has reached a critical stage because so many heather moors have been lost to conifer plantations or have reverted to poor quality grass cover.

"The knock-on effects of such changes in land use on scenery, on other moorland

birds, animals and plants and on tourism and employment are potentially enormous", it says.

Dr Peter Hudson, a grouse researcher, is to lead the study after similar work in the north of England. "We know exactly what the grouse should be doing so it will be a question of discovering why they are not doing it in Scotland," he says.

He will use a tracking device which tunes into small radio transmitters fitted to the grouse giving their movement patterns.

Information will be stored and analysed by computer.

From surveys already carried out the researchers know that black grouse, capercaillie, blue hares, snipe, grey partridge were affected by similar declines. A common factor among them is an increasing number of predators.

Dr Hudson doubts whether the answer will be so straightforward: foxes, feral mink and birds of prey could prove to be only part of the story.

## RSPB calls for register of private egg collections

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The stealing of wild birds' eggs from nests has reached such serious proportions that the Government should consider the registration of private egg collections, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds says.

Mr Richard Porter, head of the society's species protection department, suggested at the weekend that a system could be used similar to the one successfully employed for registering captive birds of prey.

More than 12,000 eggs have been seized from collectors in the past 18 months. Recent seizures have averaged about 700 eggs and, with an estimated 600 collectors in Britain, there could be as many as 500,000 eggs in private collections.

Some 10 per cent are said to come from rare species such as the avocet and the golden eagle.

The society describes egg collecting as "a curiously British form of kleptomania", which, in spite of wider prosecution powers available under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, appears to be on the increase.

The society says people begin collecting eggs when they are children. This could develop into an obsession, which might lead adults to night-time raids on nests carried out with military-style planning.

Special equipment, cars with false number plates and elaborate hiding places enable many thieves to escape detection, according to the society.

## Church news

## Appointments

**Canon P. Allen**, Rural Dean of Haverhill and Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, to be Rural Dean of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, from April 1, 1986.

**The Rev. J. J. Armstrong**, Director of Studies, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, to be Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, from April 1, 1986.

**The Rev. E. Barnes**, Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, to be Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, from April 1, 1986.

**The Rev. J. P. Collins**, Incumbent of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, to be Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Haverhill, from April 1, 1986.

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OBITUARY  
SAM WOODING

## Big-band jazz

Sam Wooding, who was one of the first musicians to introduce big-band black American jazz in Europe, died on August 1 in New York. He was 90.

Samuel David Wooding was born in Philadelphia in June 1895. He began his career as a pianist and singer in his mid-teens when he found work with various bands in the New Jersey resort of Atlantic City.

He served in the US army during the First World War. When he was demobilised in 1919 he returned to Atlantic City and formed his own band, the Society Syncopators. A series of engagements followed, first in Detroit, then New York.

In 1924 an emigre Russian impresario who was in New York to put together a black variety show for a European tour heard Wooding's band at the Club Alabam in Times Square and signed it up for the show which opened in Berlin in 1925.

The band played as part of the variety show throughout Europe. One of the high spots of the tour was a three-month visit to the Soviet Union in 1926, where it played engagements at the Moscow Circus and the Leningrad Music Hall. Wooding left the company, later that year, but kept the musicians together and in 1927, after a seven-month tour in South America, he brought them home to the United States.

The band continued to play together until 1931 when it disbanded after a tour of Belgium. Wooding tried to start a new band in the United States but because his reputation had been built largely in Europe he found it difficult to get bookings.

Wooding left full time playing and, in the mid-1930s, went to the University of Pennsylvania where he took a masters degree in music. There were other engagements, notably tours of America and Canada with a spiritual choir, but increasingly Wooding moved into teaching, which he continued until the late 1950s. By that time he had formed a duo with the singer Rae Harrison whom he married and the pair toured the world.

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THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Changes on growth that caught most people out

Time to take stock, before summer holidays make the economic indicators as unreliable as the weather. In the fourth year of rising production, Britain's gross national product for 1985 is likely to be about 11½ per cent higher than in Mrs Thatcher's worst year of 1981 – and, much more significantly, about 7½ per cent higher than in Mr James Callaghan's peak election year of 1979.

This is almost precisely the same as the increase in output, peak to peak, between 1973 and 1979.

This puts in perspective the opposition's tales of unmitigated economic woe. Though also Mr Nigel Lawson's claims, in a end-of-term letter to his backbenchers, that our present growth performance is "without precedent". Mr Lawson is trading on the fact that Britain will continue to outperform the European growth average this year, and may even outgrow the United States. This is true, important and should be noted by those in Britain who think they could do better. But less has changed, for good or ill, in Britain than any other country of the world is constitutionally obliged to pretend.

Even so, quite a lot has changed in this latest economic cycle, both for good and ill. On the plus side, while growth is likely to flag next year, we are unlikely to fall into a real slump. It therefore seems that we will almost certainly notch up a longer period of sustained growth than in the 1970s.

We have also managed it at less inflationary cost. Although the inflation rate to which Mr Callaghan's (and the International Monetary Fund's) combination of monetary restraint and incomes policy spectacularly reduced the hyperinflation of the mid-1970s to a brief set of monthly figures not so different from the figures we are experiencing today, the fires were only briefly banked down – inflation quickly rose to double digit levels even before the Tories' unwise public sector pay promises in 1979 sent costs spiralling again.

Mrs Thatcher's recent dotty awards to top civil servants, judges and generals shows that here, too, less has changed than one could wish – but at the cost of great resentment. The Government can still prevent the kind of general public-sector pay scramble that has marked Britain's last two economic recoveries.

The Government has simultaneously reduced the burden of public borrowing. Now one can easily take the view that this has been achieved partly by a cheat (flogging off assets and treating the proceeds as income), by natural good fortune (rising oil revenues, up until now), or by reducing its own promises (raising spending, but raising taxation even more). A varied array of critics, from the easy spenders on the left to those, like Mr Christopher Johnson in today's *Bulletin* from Lloyds Bank, who base their argument on the falling ratio of total public debt to national income, make the very different point that it should borrow more.

But what is quite clear is that the Government's policies leave public finances in a much easier shape on which to base any budgetary policy than the one Mrs Thatcher inherited. In that respect, the Government has pursued an extraordinarily disinterested economic policy – a fact which does not make the Prime Minister any more popular with her own party.

Thus the big change, as Professor Jim Ball of the London Business School argues in today's *National Westminster Bank Review*, is that output has risen this time without deliberate deflation. There has been some concealed pump priming, not only through higher public spending (which gives more of an instant boost than lower taxes) but also through changes in hire purchase rules and other borrowing

incentives. But the public sector's deficit has gone down, not up, in relation to national income since the trough of 1981, when Sir Geoffrey Howe introduced a budget that will certainly earn him a place in history.

On the minus side, there has been a fearful change in the relationship between the economic growth that we have seen and the expected fall in unemployment that we have not. It is worth noting how badly almost everyone was caught out by this change. The pessimists, whose warnings of three million unemployed were unwisely discounted, generally expected less output growth, which the Treasury forecast less growth than has actually been achieved, which makes its hopes of falling unemployment all the more misguided.

The Chancellor, who unwisely opined that the tide had turned in 1983, now merely says that "the prospects for the second half of this Parliament are clearly better than they have been during the first half". Despite a further rise last month, there is some sign unemployment is levelling out, as it should do with national output growing at a rate of 3½ per cent, but if growth slows next year there is no reason in demography to expect the trend to go anywhere but up for another couple of years. What is important for the argument, however, is to ask whether there is something intrinsically different in this recovery that has altered the relationship between employment and growth – and if there is, whether it has anything to do with the determination not to reflate.

With qualifications, the answer to the first seems to be yes – to the second, no. The Labour shakeout during the slump of 1979-81 did restructure the economy. We had it coming, of course – as a paper from the London Business School last week rather neatly demonstrated. The previous rise in the price of labour, relative to capital meant that when the squeeze came, it was jobs that were forced out – and when recovery came, it was Labour – saving investment that helped to give output a lift.

Except in so far as the policy contradictions of the first phase of the Thatcher Government helped to intensify the recession, budgetary policy had little part to play in this shift. Whether output would have risen more or less, if demands had been relaxed, we would almost certainly have seen this same shift in the relationship between growth and jobs.

This does not, of course, mean that a different combination of public spending, and tax priorities could not induce higher employment – there is still much to be done in both respects. But it does suggest that it now takes an awful lot of economic growth to absorb Britain's growing labour force. We have entered a phase in which investment is permitting huge savings in labour. Moreover, as the London Business School paper points out, this transformation of the economy cannot be easily deflected. Those who "price themselves out of work" cannot easily "price themselves in". Companies who have been scrapping labour-intensive plant which became too expensive to operate do not scrap their new equipment in response to a year or two of wage moderation.

The trick is to generate the new jobs elsewhere, while directing public policy. Towards the prevention of further job destruction. The pronouncements of would-be chancellors suggest they have not yet appreciated the enormity of the task, but then nor it seems has the Chancellor. "Everything government can do, we are doing," says Mr Lawson, thus presenting his head for washing once more. What should we do without him?

Sarah Hogg  
Economics Editor

## Fraser likely to accept Burton offer for Debenhams stake

By Patricia Wheatcroft

The directors of House of Fraser met yesterday in an effort to decide what to do with the company's 25 per cent holding in Debenhams now that Burton Group has won control.

Professor Roland Smith, chairman of Fraser, is believed to be furious about the last-minute decision by Mr Gerald Ronson and Sir Philip Harris to use their vital 8 per cent holding to vote in favour of Debenhams. Fraser had been confident it could count on their support. Fraser is reluctant to remain a minority shareholder in a Burton subsidiary, and it is likely to accept the Burton offer.

Professor Smith said yesterday: "We could stick with our Debenhams shares, but we are not happy with a negative strategy." He and the other Fraser directors were at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, for the Harrods Cup polo match and, despite the torrential rain, he was trying to look on the bright side.

Professor Smith, who no longer rules out acceptance of Burton's offer, said: "Far from closing doors, the new situation has opened new ones. We could take the cash and move to pastures new."

That would produce little profit on the £130 million Fraser invested in buying its stake, intending to block Burton's bid, accepting Burton's

paper offer would leave Fraser holding under a tenth of the enlarged company but this could provide a base from which to launch discussions on new co-operation deals along the lines of those which Fraser had hoped to operate with Debenhams. "Whatever we do will be positive," the professor added.

The jubilant Burton camp is not rushing to talk to Fraser after Fraser's declared efforts to spoil its bid. "If Fraser does want some help in certain areas, then we will be prepared to discuss what we can do," said Mr Michael Wood, Burton's finance director.

It was only because of the takeover Panel's decision that the bid could be extended from its Friday deadline until yesterday afternoon that Burton actually won control. At 3 pm on Friday, Burton had only its own 15 per cent holding and acceptances for 23 per cent.

Fierce trading in Debenhams shares over the last days of the bid meant that the registrars were having difficulty in verifying ownership of acceptances.

By Friday evening another 7 per cent of these acceptances had gone through the system which, coupled with the Ronson stake, meant victory for Burton. But at least another 2 per cent of acceptances could not be verified.

## Names offer to buy syndicates

By Alison Eadie

Two Lloyd's "names" on the former PCW syndicates have offered to purchase the continuing syndicates 900, 138 and 839 from the 1984 underwriting year. The syndicate have a capacity of about £70 million and comprise 2,000 names.

Mr Iain McClelland and Mr Richard Graham on Friday wrote to Mr Graham White, managing director of Richard Beckett Underwriting Agencies, which runs the syndicates. A copy of the letter went to Mr Peter Miller, chairman of Lloyd's. Mr White has indicated his willingness to sell at a price agreed by arbitration.

The names propose the setting up of a new managing agency called Phoenix Underwriting Agencies, which will be capitalized at £500,000 and be 51 per cent owned by PCW names and 49 per cent by the managers and underwriter. Mr Ian Fosgate has been proposed as underwriter.

Lloyd's ruling council has agreed to consider any formal



Graham White: willing to accept arbitration

offer, but the names must come up with a strong board of directors. The search is now on for a strong and independent chairman, who will be responsible for the syndicate if Lloyd's accepts him as underwriter.

Mr McClelland and Mr Graham are anxious to finalize a deal this month, before names begin to drift away and join

other syndicates. If their offer does not go through, it is highly likely that the syndicates will be closed with the loss-making syndicates, which are already scheduled for closure.

Mr White last week told names on syndicate 900 that, because of the uncertainty surrounding the syndicate – one of the biggest marine syndicates at Lloyd's – underwriting would be suspended for the time being.

It is hoped that this week Robson Rhodes, the accountant, will begin an investigation of the continuing syndicates on behalf of Phoenix, to establish whether there are any unforeseen problems. The co-operation of AUAS, the new agency set up by Lloyd's to close down the loss-making syndicates, will be needed first. AUAS takes over only today.

The names fear that, if syndicate 900 is closed, the losses on the open years before 1984 will be twice as high as they would be, if the syndicate was continued with a tough underwriter at its head.

## Liffe beating SE on new option

By Michael Preet

Financial Correspondent

After only a month's trading in currency options, the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) appears to be winning the market-share battle with the London Stock Exchange and to be establishing itself as a leading market place internationally for the options.

Figures released by Liffe today, covering the period from June 27, when Liffe launched its pound/dollar option, to July 31, show that the average value of Liffe's daily volume was £37.5 million, while that of the Stock Exchange, which launched its contract several weeks earlier, was £8.01 million.

Over the same period, Liffe's average daily contract volume was 1,502, compared with the Stock Exchange's 641. In fact, this gives a misleading impression, because Liffe's contract is worth £25,000, or twice that of the Stock Exchange.

The other important indicator of a contract's health is the volume of contracts outstanding, known as the "open interest". Here the figures were more evenly matched. Liffe's open interest was 13,864 and the Stock Exchange's 12,864.

But Liffe's international position is just as important as its success in the more parochial contract.

On a comparative contract basis, Liffe is already trading half the volume of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, which has a two-and-a-half years' head start on the basis of the value of contracts traded. Liffe now has about a fifth of the international market. The other exchanges offering a pound/dollar option, apart from the London stock Exchange and Philadelphia, are the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the European Options Exchange.

Mr Brian Williamson, chairman of Liffe, said: "What matters is that Liffe is now a serious force internationally. We ought to see that Liffe is the world's biggest market for options in the pound. I think that Philadelphia now has a serious competitor on its hands."

Writing in the *Lloyds Bank monthly Economic Bulletin*, Mr Johnson points out that Britain is unusual in having reduced its public debt relative to gross domestic product, while it has risen sharply elsewhere. The fall came in the 1970s.

WEDNESDAY – Interim: Ayrshire Metal Products, Grigoriadis Exploration and Finance, GKN, Securor Group, Security Services, Finesy, Sidney C Banks, Bensons Crisps, Chardham, Property Security Investment Trust, TR City of London Trust.

THURSDAY – Interim: BOC Group (third quarter), Davies & Metcalfe, F & C Enterprise Trust (results expected August 9), Heywood Williams Group, John I. Jacobs, Investment Trust of Guernsey, Law Debenture Group, Noble & Lund, Pan Invest Group, Royal Dutch Petroleum, Scottish, English and European Textiles, "Shell" Transport and Trading, Smith & Nephew Associated Companies, T Group, Finela – Dee Corporation, M. J. Firth, Gnomie Photographic, M. J. Wynd International Investment Trust, Yorkshire Chemicals.

FRIDAY – Interim: Alliance Trust, Harston, Sycamore Holdings, STC, Finela: William Cook and Sons (Sheffield), Owen & Robinson.

TOMORROW – Interim: Rotok, Finela: David Dixon Group, Hambro Currency Fund, Hambro Trust.

SARAH HOGG

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Way cleared for restaurant listing

By Cliff Feltham

The stockbroker, Fiske and Company, met Stock Exchange officials to report allegations made by a former executive of Aberdeen Steak Houses, the London restaurant chain it is bringing to the stock market this week.

Aberdeen Steak Houses is run by Mr Ali Salih, a Turkish Cypriot, who stands to become a multi-millionaire when the business is floated on the Unlisted Securities Market. His earlier venture, London Eating Houses crashed in 1975.

After the meeting Mr Clive Harrison, a partner in Fiske, said: "The Stock Exchange is happy with our explanation. There is no question of holding up the flotation."

"It has accepted that the allegations are without substance and have been refuted in detail by the people who are alleged to be remiss."

Aberdeen Steak Houses had planned to come to the stock market in 1983 and was involved in discussions with

another broker. But after receipt of an anonymous letter the discussions lapsed.

Mr Salih described the latest claims as "nonsense."

Mr Salih declined to discuss London Eating Houses, in 1975 the chain of 74 outlets employing 800 workers was being investigated by the Home Office after claims that many of its Cypriot workforce were illegal immigrants.

Hygiene standards had been criticized and the company had been convicted 10 times within six years for offences under the food hygiene regulations.

Mr Harris said: "We are all aware of what happened at that time and none of these problems exist today."

Mr Aziz Suleman, who had worked with Mr Salih from 1979, said yesterday that he had resigned as company secretary and was subsequently dismissed as accountant after notifying parties associated with the flotation of "omissions" in the prospectus.

IoD calls for tax changes

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The Institute of Directors has called on the Government to change tax laws on companies being unfairly taxed as result of swings in exchange rates.

Sir John Hoskyns, director-general of the institute, has told Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, that a "task force" comprising officials and taxpayers' representatives should be set up to study the problems and make recommendations.

The institute's main concern is with the tax treatment of gains and losses on companies' borrowings in foreign currency as a result of exchange rate movements.

It says that the British approach is defective and, putting companies at a disadvantage to overseas competitors, and the Inland Revenue's recent provisional statement of practice on the matter is "inadequate."

Sir John, in a letter to Mr Moore, says: "Despite repeated representations by this institute and other business bodies there has still been no indication that the Government has reform in this area on its agenda let alone accorded it the high priority it deserves."

Correction

Sumrie Clothes has asked us to point out that allegations of fraud made by Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch in the Commons related to property companies in which Mr Michael Hepker, Sumrie's chairman has an interest and not Sumrie itself as erroneously stated last week.

The disputed loans by John Sumrie Mathew Bankers were made in 1981, about two years before Mr Hepker or any of his companies had any connection with Sumrie Clothes.

US NOTEBOOK

Doubt about an economic 'surge'

From Maxwell Newton  
New York

While spokesmen for the Administration in Washington are trying to get us to believe that real gross national product is going to accelerate in growth to 5 per cent a year in the second half of this year, there are many signs of a growing deflationary crisis.

During the week, for the first time since 1978, the Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures prices fell below 220. We are retreating in commodity futures price levels not seen since early in 1978 – even heading to 1977 prices.

The petrol futures market suffered a setback on Wednesday when the American Petroleum Institute reported an unexpected rise of 4.4 million barrels in petrol stocks. This came at the height of the summer selling season, when stocks are usually low.

The Administration is tending to talk up the economic news, Wednesday's report that the index of leading indicators rose by 1 per cent in June led to many "rosy" stories. Yet the truth was that the May number was drastically reduced – from a rise of 3.7 per cent to one of 0.1.

This meant that the increase in the index in the three months to June was 3.5 per cent, well below the rise of 2.1 in the three months to March.

In fact, the index of leading indicators is pointing to continuing problems for the US economy in attaining faster growth. In the year to March 1984, the index rose 11.3 per cent. In the 15 months to June 1985 it rose 0.8 per cent.

Mr Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary for Commerce, was correct when he said that the index of leading indicators would have to rise more strongly than this, for the US economy to meet accelerated growth targets.

The markets are now thinking only that the economy is going to "surge" – the view pushed by Mr Paul Volcker.

Bonds recovered well on Thursday, after a big increase in Japanese buying on Wednesday night in New York, and the June and May leading indicator figures.

The New York Stock Exchange futures index September contract finished the week under 111. This took the index to the early February level. If the markets really believed the "dreamtime" talk of a "surge" in growth, the stock indexes would be doing much better. Instead, they are sliding.

World trade showed an upturn last year after three years of decline. International exports grew by 6.1 per cent and imports by 6.5 per cent. According to the latest report from the International Monetary Fund, the downturn in world trade reached its nadir in the third quarter of 1983, but it has not yet recovered to the levels of 1980.

The value of exports for industrialized countries in 1984, \$1,214 billion, was 2 per cent down on 1980 and imports at \$1,310 billion, were 4.5 per cent down on 1980.

Third World countries the decline is much greater, with exports down by 13.7 per cent and imports down 12.5 per cent on 1980.

Lysander comes to London

By Clare Dobie

Lysander Petroleum, the latest of a stream of small US oil companies to seek a London quotation, is coming to the stock market via a placing by Barclays Merchant Bank. Dealings are expected to begin tomorrow.

Barclays will be keen to see that Lysander gets a good reception, after the difficult Tiphook launch.

Lysander is capitalized at £10.5 million at the placing price of 65p a share. The price-tag represents a 50 per cent discount to assets. Lysander has reserves of 1.4 million barrels of oil and 11 billion cubic feet of gas.

The assets have been valued conservatively. They have been calculated by discounting at 10 per cent a year net revenue from proven reserves only, after allowing for the cost of extracting the oil or gas. The valuations are based on oil prices of \$25 and \$25.50 a barrel against posted well-head prices of \$27 a barrel.

Some previous US oil issues have taken unproven reserves into asset values and some have not allowed for the cost of extraction. Lysander's main oil and gas properties are in Colorado, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

In the year to June 30, 1986 these are forecast to produce revenue of \$3.1 million and a cash flow surplus of \$2 million.

PSBR 'could be raised'

By Our Economics Editor

The Government could increase public borrowing to £15 billion this year – rising to over £20 billion before the end of the decade – without the ratio of public debt to national income, according to Mr Christopher Johnson, economic adviser to Lloyd's Bank.

His view is supported by an analysis, also published today, by Mr Gavin Davies, chief economist at the stockbrokers Simon & Coats, which says that the ratio of net public debt to national income will fall from 41 per cent now to 37 per cent by 1989, unless public borrowing is increased.

The Simon & Coats analysis also suggests that the real net worth of the public sector has been declining sharply since 1981. It fell by £30 billion in 1983-84 and a further £12 billion in 1984-85.

Writing in the *Lloyds Bank monthly Economic Bulletin*, Mr Johnson points out that Britain is unusual in having reduced its public debt relative to gross domestic product, while it has risen sharply elsewhere. The fall came in the 1970s.

On the basis of the value of contracts traded, Liffe now has about a fifth of the international market. The other exchanges offering a pound/dollar option, apart from the London stock Exchange and Philadelphia, are the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the European Options Exchange.

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We are pleased to announce that effective August 5, 1985 the offices of  
**Goldman Sachs International Corp.**  
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## TEMPUS

## Gilt-edged: take profits as the going gets rougher

Ring, ring, bleep, bleep, wink, or simply knock, knock. The client is contacting his stockbroker. The client is a happy man. The new insurance products have sold well in the North-East, and even the well-heeled South has manifested some enthusiasm. The client has £50 million to go into the gilt market. What should he do?

The client's query places the stockbroker in a quandary. The idea of turning business away is anathema to the race as a whole. Yet after last week, the state of the art is deeply puzzling.

The stockbroker dare not wheel out the economist, since the poor chap, was nailed to the wall at the last institutional lunch, and has barely recovered his appetite. Let alone his forecasts and his nerve. The stockbroker, therefore, must produce a fuzzy reply, trusting that the integrity of his response will be recalled with favour in less onerous times.

This is probably the correct course of action. Gilt is now poised in an uneasy state of equilibrium, after traders experienced a profound change of mood last week. Fear is

replacing greed as the principal driving force behind the market's motivation. Crucial to market sentiment is the way that yields have yet again bounced off the 10 per cent barrier. Over the past 2½ years, the FT Government Securities Index has made five intermediate highs, starting on June 13, 1983. Base rates were then 10 per cent, and the index 33.60. Subsequently, on November 11, 1983, on January 9, 1984, on December 5, 1984, and on July 17, 1985, the index has neared the 84 mark, but failed to go through it.

Base rates have varied over the same period between 9 per cent and 12 per cent. Exchange rates, inflation, and yield gaps have all come and gone. Yet the peak levels of the index have only differed by the exceptionally tiny amount of one-fifth of a point. From a chartist's angle, this means that the 10 per cent yield barrier should prove and extraordinarily tenacious resistance point. The logic of this perception is equally simple in reverse. The weakness of the market towards the end of last week offers little scope, at least

in the short term, for traders to develop sufficient momentum to prove yield through the barrier. Hence the market concluded that if the barrier would not be breached this time, then the chances of yield suffering something of a setback were quite good. The selling began.

On one level, arguably, a bear reaction after the recent rally looks fairly healthy. On May 28, it was suggested here that the authorities were poised to start cutting rates; gilt would rally. The rally has lasted about two months, and gains at the long end have totalled some 7 points, treating Exchequer 12 per cent 2023/17 as a bellwether stock. Long yields have actually dropped about ½ point, entering, albeit marginally, single figure territory.

Perennial bulls of the market would doubtless argue now that gilt will beat a measured retreat, regroup at a slightly higher yield level, and then launch a further attack on the 10 per cent barrier.

lying the current yield structure. The fact that gilt should retreat despite the promise of good £M3 figures tomorrow and promised base rate cuts implies an alienation of sentiment relative to the authorities' intended reconstruction of market ledgers.

A couple of months ago, the authorities were launching a spring offensive against broad money as a touchstone for market sentiment. The market was deeply reluctant to acquiesce to the abolition of its favourite indicator, not least because it offered a manner of insights into the movement of credit counterparts, including trends in government borrowing.

Fortunately, or otherwise, the authorities were able to offer traders an acceptable surrogate — the exchange rate — whose strength at the time looked capable of eradicating market's fears over inflation trends.

Quite logically, the authorities then moved on to the B of their strategy, notably the demolition of over-funding, in a bid simultaneously to drive gilt yields down, while reducing the size of the bill market. As a

sop to the market's sense of tradition, it was offered M.O. as a domestic monetary target. Analysts' rage at the substitution of a meaningless monetary dial was mitigated, in the traders' eyes, by the simple fact that the market was going up steadily and perceptibly.

Events last week, however, demonstrate just how volatile the new target variable can be. For sterling's weakness on Thursday and Friday, substitute a sell-off in gilt.

In other words, the authorities' bid to alter the terms of its relationship with the market quite possibly have left them locked into an even tighter set of parameters.

Foreign exchange markets are imperfect, and subject to huge overruns in both directions. The gearing implicit in the situation shows up in the relative performance of the market. In the last week and month, the performance of the medium and long has been pretty much in line with their calculated volatilities in the ratio of 1:1.62 for shorts, medium, and long.

Four stocks, that is stocks free of tax for overseas residents, have not demonstrated any systematic outperformance, relative to the rest of the market. But shorts show perhaps a 1½ per cent gain above their estimated volatility.

Granted the presence at the long end of the shorts of a homogeneous group of high coupon stocks, this looks to be the area where the foreigner has invested his short-term sterling. This equally could be the area to post the heaviest losses, if the foreigner opts to switch into Wall Street, outperformance on the down side which could drag the rest of the market down.

That is why the market is waiting in an uneasy state of nerves for this week's money supply figures *et al.* And that is why the market could fall far faster than the bulls estimate, if it fails decisively to penetrate the 10 per cent yield barrier.

Client No. 2 is far more acceptable to a stockbroker. He has traded the market all the way up, and the portfolio is groaning with profits. What should he do? Take some of those profits, and take them fast, must be the answer.

Winchester, who started the final round sharing the lead with Miller, began with a birdie at the first hole, but he went on to drop a shot at both the second and third holes, where he took three putts. Thereafter he missed a succession of reasonable chances to that, although he remained in touch.

Finch should emerge as the winner of the first tournament in which he should compete following the Scott's superb success at Royal St. George's.

Winchester, aged 18 and the unemployed son of a Sidmouth greengrocer, had never won an event before, not even a humble monthly medal. He must have been the only player in a field of 256 with that unusual distinction.

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lan Baker-Finch, of Australia, compiled a final round of 66 and won the Scandinavian Open first prize of £20,000 on the Sven Tumba Country Club course in overcast conditions here yesterday. His winning aggregate of 274, which is 14 under par, brought him his first success on the European tour.

Baker-Finch won by two strokes from a Graham Marsh, another Australian, who went round in 71. Gordon Brand junior put in a late challenge for a place in the European Ryder Cup team with a 67, to share third place on 277 with Terry Gale as Sandy Lyle fell back with a 75 for 279.

Baker-Finch said: "I have been trying too hard this season to live up to the expectations of other people who thought it was natural that I should win after having led the British Open at St. Andrew's for three rounds in 1984. Now I'm extremely relieved because I can call myself the person who won the Scandinavian Open, rather than be known as the one who lost the Open."

Lyle, who started the final round sharing the lead with Miller, began with a birdie at the first hole, but he went on to drop a shot at both the second and third holes, where he took three putts. Thereafter he missed a succession of reasonable chances to that, although he remained in touch.

Finch should emerge as the winner of the first tournament in which he should compete following the Scott's superb success at Royal St. George's.

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## USM REVIEW

## US companies see a better deal in London

More US companies like the look of London's Unlisted Securities Market. That is the message from Peat Marwick, the accountancy firm which has taken a leading role among advisers to USM debutants.

The firm recently held two pilot seminars in Philadelphia and Boston and got a good response. The Americans had plenty of questions and liked the idea of using the London market rather than their own over-the-counter facility in New York.

An OTC listing takes more time and money in the US, apparently, than in Britain, but there is just as much opportunity to raise cash in London. For certain sectors of American industry, London probably offers a better environment.

Electronics companies in America have seen their market ratings severely hit, much more than have such companies in this country. As a result, young companies with cash-raising needs from the American technology world see the British USM as attractive.

Peat Marwick is now discussing in detail USM flotations following those seminars, and the British firm is going back for more. Mr. Alan Comber, who runs the Marwick USM section, says: "We are planning more seminars in Washington DC and Chicago, for example, as well as New York. We will be active over the next six months."

The accountants also have plenty of home grown interest in the USM. Mr. Comber

expects about 30 of the companies his firm is advising to join the USM over the next two years.

Nevertheless, Peat Marwick, which this week publishes another of its quarterly surveys of the USM, has plenty of worries about prospects for the secondary market, as well as hopes. Indeed, Mr. Comber is surprised at the number of newcomers recorded in the last few months — about seven electronics companies in the three months to June 30, despite the gloomy mood of that sector in particular. A total of 25 companies joined the USM in that quarter, and there were another half dozen or so last month.

Companies are looking very carefully at the tone in City, and are scrutinizing themselves and

the pros and cons of a market. The choice for some is either to accept a lower valuation or to delay the launch.

Several companies which have joined the USM in recent months have admitted to settling for a trimmed value. Lewmar, the yacht equipment maker, for example — came at a p/e ratio of 14, when, with its established trading record and quality of earnings, it might have expected a better premium to the market average.

Mr. Comber says: "A couple of electronics companies we are

advising are having trouble deciding what to do. Where they might have been told originally they could get a p/e of 20, they now must accept one of 16 or less. Underwriting of the issues may also be more problematic."

Any further weakness in City sentiment is bound to discourage many would-be newcomers, and any sustained downturn in the level of interest in the USM could affect the long-term health of the secondary sector. Certainly, investors and market makers alike would prefer to see the USM index moving back

above 100. The slide of recent months has seen a fall of around 18 per cent in the Datastream USM market. At today's opening the index was 96.09.

Of course, the downward pull on the index has come from a relatively small number of USM shares. As the Marwick survey shows, out of some 379 companies which have taken a USM quote since the market got under way at the end of 1980, only nine have seen their shares suspended or withdrawn because of financial difficulties.

A further seven have undergone some kind of restructuring, while 64 have moved into the senior league. That leaves about 300 on the USM lists, with electricals dominating. About 21 per cent of all USM companies are in this sector. Oil and gas shares account for another 6.66 per cent of the list.

All figures in the Peat Marwick survey are as on June 30.

Pam Spooner

## COMPANY NEWS

● **SANTOS:** Santos moved to double sales revenue to Aus \$128.6 million (£66 million) from Aus \$53.3 million a year earlier, during a busy three months to end-June in which it made four oil discoveries and three gas discoveries and one oil and gas find. The company states in its latest quarterly report.

● **BOC:** BOC has arranged to borrow up to \$200 million (about £145 million) using short-term Eurodollar notes. The deputy chairman Mr. Paul Bonnet said that BOC will call down about \$100 million of the facility within the next few months. It is not underwritten, but involves three banks bidding competitively for the notes. BOC is the first British company to launch such a facility.

● **GLASGOW STOCKHOLDERS TRUST:** Half-year to June 30. Interim dividend 0.85p (0.75p). Gross revenue £1,189,227 (£950,296). Revenue, before tax, £650,359 (£662,841). Tax £218,319 (£234,686). EPS 1.27p (1.26p). Net assets per ordinary share, 134p (108p).

● **ESTATES AND AGENCY HOLDINGS:** The company is to acquire Western Motor Holdings' interest in the Mumford Industrial Estate in Plymouth for £1.19 million cash.

● **HAWKER SIDDELEY GROUP:** (Hawker Siddeley Group) 59.1 per cent Half-year to June 30, figures in Can \$000. Sales 1,901,817 (2,071,031). Pre-tax income 13,157 (about \$3 million), against 17,617 last time.

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11½%
Adam & Company	11½%
BCCI	11½%
Citibank Savings	11½%
Consolidated Crds	11½%
Continental Trust	11½%
Co-operative Bank	11½%
C. Hoare & Co	11½%
Lloyds Bank	11½%
Nat Westminster	11½%
TSB	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	11½%
Citibank NA	11½%

† Mortgage Base Rate

## ORDINARY SHARES

## Image-makers create profits for stores

British companies are more design-conscious than ever design-conscious. They have discovered that good design means better sales and they are flocking to the doors of the people who can invest a product or a place with winning looks.

Designers are new recruits to the stock market, but they should not be viewed as arty adjuncts to the real world. They have joined the ranks of professional advisers whose services are regarded as sufficiently essential to ensure a rapidly rising source of income.

The Burton Group's bid for Debenhams was not lost and won on fundamental arguments but on the more elusive battlefield of design. Burton accused Debenhams of being "dowdy" and advanced the designer's dream of the Galleria

as the answer to a department store's trading problems. Debenhams countered with the assertion that "style is central to Debenhams' retailing philosophy". Both sides produced unflattering photographs of the rival's stores. But the stores are only as good as their designers, and they are providing them with overtime.

The dozen of British designers, the ubiquitous Sir Terence Conran, has played a large role in the debate about the future of British retailing, but he does not have the field to himself.

House of Fraser, Fitch designs for Burton Group and the new recruits to the Unlisted Securities Market, John Michael Design, have been responsible for some of the better-looking Debenhams stores. Michael Peiers has set up a new retail

division to cope with the increased work this side of his design business is generating. Aidcom is perhaps the most comprehensive of the design companies, with a business that encompasses product design and development, retail design and a high technology division.

The company has even carved itself a sizeable chunk of the product-naming market, now considered to be one of the most vital matters of style for any company in the consumer markets. The correct chiselling can make or break a product.

Aidcom's image has suffered because of its involvement in the minicomputer field with the Husky, but the company should not be tarred with the same pessimistic brush as mere computer companies.

In fact it has just sold 240 Huskies to Switzerland, in a deal which will bolster this year's profits. The Husky is on the fringe of its activities, and Aidcom may well pull out eventually, but that will be at a profit.

In the meantime, it will comfortably top the £1.66 million that it made in the 14 months to the end of last year. Estimates for the present year had been high as £2.5 million, but James Capel, the brokers, has downgraded its forecast to £2.15 million. This is largely due to fluctuating exchange rates — Aidcom makes a high proportion of its earnings overseas and they are worth less in sterling than they were at the beginning of the year.

Patience Wheatcroft

## UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Chg	Open	High	Low	Close	Div	Yield	P/E
1. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
2. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
3. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
4. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
5. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
6. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
7. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
8. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
9. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
10. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
11. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
12. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
13. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
14. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
15. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
16. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
17. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
18. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
19. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
20. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
21. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
22. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
23. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
24. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
25. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
26. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
27. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
28. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
29. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
30. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
31. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10
32. A&W	1.10	0.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	1.10



## ATHLETICS

# Cram turns back the clock with third world record but it is a close run thing

Steve Cram set his third world record in less than three weeks yesterday when he ran 4min 51.39sec for 2,000 metres. But it was a close run thing for Cram took just one-hundredth of a second off John Walker's former record, set in Oslo nine years ago.

The trackside clock originally showed 4:51.46 and it was a very disappointed Cram and a 10,000 crowd in the NEP Stadium. But five minutes later the photo finish confirmed the record. Before he learned that fact Cram had blamed his long slide for missing the record. That was also why he took so little off Walker's time.

The first lap, paced by James Mays had been well inside Walker's time, as was the 800 metres in 1:55.73, a second better than Walker. But when secondary pacemaker Rob Harrison dropped out at the

From Pat Butcher, Budapest

halfway mark in 2:25.02, Cram was still two seconds better than Walker but without the impetus of either pacemakers or first class challenges, as he had in the 1,500 metres and one mile records recently. Cram only just made it in time.

Cram said immediately afterwards: "It was very, very tough. I'm not going to do anything like that again for a long time. The fact that the record has stood for so long shows how tough it was. It's like running a world record mile, and having to do one more lap on top."

But that extra lap and that one-hundredth of a second means that Cram now has set three world records in 20 days, 21 days less than it took Sebastian Coe to perform the same feat in 1979.

But Cram's almost certainly clinched the javelin place in the European Cup team for Mos-

cow on August 17-18 when he won with 86.32 metres, and had two more throws better than Ronald Bradstock. Another impressive aspect of current British athletics prominence was how these two dominated the competition in a country which can boast two former javelin world record holders.

Tom McKean's second place to Edwin Keoch continues the Scot's extraordinary career in the 800m, for he brought his time to the verge of world class with 1:46.03. Due principally to running most of his races in Scotland, McKean has not lost an 800m in two years until last Friday. And then it took Olympic champion Joaquim Cruz to beat him in the IAC meeting. McKean had beaten Cram and Delell Wagnonech in his other two big races so far this season.

McKean has now lost his second race in three days after winning 34 in a row. But considering the erratic way he ran this race, boxed in for most of the first lap, and then jockeying for position until as late as his sprint 15 metres from the line, McKean still showed he has a great future. He was pipped by Keoch, sixth in the Olympics, and took over a second off his previous best.

John Herbert set a personal best of 17.13m in winning the triple jump on a day that Oleg Prosenko raised the European record to 17.69m in the Soviet championships in Leningrad. Herbert had stagnated for a couple of years after setting his previous best of 17.05 in the World Student Games in Edmonton. This back up jump yesterday was 17m flat.

**Budapest results**

**Men**  
100m: 1. Steve Cram (GB) 1:55.73; 2. D. Keoch (GB) 1:56.03; 3. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 4. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 5. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 6. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 7. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 8. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 9. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 10. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 11. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 12. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 13. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 14. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 15. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 16. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 17. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 18. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 19. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 20. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 21. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 22. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 23. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 24. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 25. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 26. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 27. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 28. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 29. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 30. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 31. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 32. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 33. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 34. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 35. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 36. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 37. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 38. J. Mays (GB) 1:56.03; 39. J. 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## HORIZONS

The Times guide to career choice

## How to be your own boss

One pig, six chickens and a loom may not be the ideal means to self-sufficiency, either now or the year 2000. And although such modest assets enabled families to survive independently before the machine age turned us into a nation of employees, the methods today are more sophisticated. But the ends are the same as they were 200 years ago: to be self-supporting.

With the old idea of a safe job for life vanishing, more stimulating work patterns are fostering the growth of the entrepreneur, the freelance, the part-timer, the individual craftsman, designer, artist, the man or woman who can provide a service. With advances in technology and companies consistently relying less on permanent staff, the next 15 or 20 years will see many of today's junior managers heading towards redundancy.

"You will be getting older, and expensive, and blocking the way for younger people," says Professor Charles Handy, of the London Business School. "Employment is changing, becoming simply one phase of life. Organizations are becoming more like the armed services, taking people for 20 years but not forever. So you need to prepare for life beyond employment."

## Property and education are best investments

The two best investments, Professor Handy says, are in property and education. His advice is to contribute to a pension scheme early and to ensure your mortgage is paid off by the time you leave so that you have unencumbered property. Treat your pension as accumulating capital that you can use to start a business.

"Almost inevitably your second career will be self-employment or running a business. So make sure you have a professional or saleable skill to fall back on. We are moving into the 'credential society' where vocational qualifications are needed — in carpentry, computers, etc."

"During your past five or six years of company life, build up contacts. Get to know your bank manager. Look at people and at networks as potential suppliers, contacts, customers."

All this puts greater emphasis on planning for the future than was contemplated by earlier generations whose career planning has generally been geared to progressing within a company or organization.

"Put yourself at the centre," says John Whapham, a careers and personal development counsellor. Whereas an older generation went from university to corporate life and became "sucked into the system", he urges younger people to think more about fulfilling themselves in their work. He believes that, just as women

## Sally Watts looks at how to prepare for self-sufficiency in the future

have been adjusting to more "liberal" lives, men are starting to do the same. At work and at home, they are learning to live on their own terms.

"Until now, corporations have controlled people's lives. But it's important to realize now that you will probably have to be in control of your own life and start relating yourself to the new order," says Mr Whapham. His work includes leading a counselling session at the Job Change Project, based at the Polytechnic of Central London.

"Think about cultivating your skills and resources for tomorrow when you have no company: think, too, about training, such as evening business courses."

Study and training are vital assets, both while you are employed and later, when you have your own



enterprise. Apart from getting on the day release or training schemes arranged by your firm, consider distance learning or relevant full-time, part-time or distance learning courses that you can organize for yourself, from Open University programmes to evening degree courses. See what matches your interests and aptitudes at colleges and polytechnics in your area.

Many young graduates now, especially in science and engineering, are using their initiative to do further courses — both full- and part-time — such as MBA, MSc or the Diploma in Management Studies. As well as extending skills and prospects, these equate graduates with useful management and business knowledge to draw on as entrepreneurs.

If you are already considering business start-up, find out about MSC courses, including small business courses and workshops, or the New Enterprise Programme directed at

more ambitious ventures which expect to grow quickly.

Also try to widen your experience within your company. Pauline Hyde, who founded the Forty Plus Career Development Group, specializing in redeployment of jobless executives, urges young men and women to get as broad a base of industrial experience as possible. Move around, perhaps to Europe or the United States, look at various specialties and constantly stretch yourself.

By the early 40s she reckons a manager should have been with three good companies. Among her clients are many who are in their 50s, yet have always been with the same organization. Above all, says Mrs Hyde, do not become set in your ways — or in your company, or your job.

Today's young managers are tomorrow's entrepreneurs, so they need to cultivate a rather different — and certainly wider — set of skills and qualities than the typical company man or woman. Use the time you spend on a company payroll to acquire assets that will stand you in good stead when you are running your own business. For example, efficiency at controlling your own time — important when time means money; assertiveness and confidence; and the ability to negotiate and to manage people.

## Keep your skills and knowledge up-to-date

Keeping a flexible outlook helps you to be alert to possibilities, such as taking on a part-time job and spending the rest of the time in your own business, or finding ways to exploit your knowledge and experience in an emergency, perhaps by doing contract work or direct selling. For both these you would be self-employed and both could also lead to a full career.

Keep your skills and your knowledge of technology up to date. Try not to neglect any of your abilities — you never know when you may need them. If you are unsure about alternative careers, or the type of business venture to which you are best suited, you could usefully invest in a professional analysis, to discover what most complements your particular aptitudes.

As Professor Handy points out, redundancy will always be a shock, with its connotation of being no longer wanted. But the future trend among older age groups will be for skilled workers only to remain as employees.

For others there is the prospect of new careers and initiatives. And when you outgrow your company and start to create your own success story, your opportunities and choices will far outstrip those offered to our forebears by a pig, a loom and six chickens.

## University of Cambridge: Statistical Laboratory

## LECTURESHIP IN MATHEMATICS

The University expects to fill a Lectureship to be held in the Statistical Laboratory, which is responsible for the teaching of mathematical statistics, probability, and the mathematics of operational research in the Faculty of Mathematics. There is a particular need for a statistician, but applications are invited from candidates active in any of these areas. The post is to be filled as soon as possible; applications close 28th September 1985.

Further information may be obtained from the Secretary, Statistical Laboratory, 10 Mill Lane, Cambridge CB2 1SB. Tel: (0223) 65261.

## UNIVERSITY OF READING

## Lectureship in the Department of Linguistics

Applications are invited from qualified speech therapists to consider the Lectureship in Linguistics. The Department of Linguistics is a research unit in the Department of Language and Linguistics. The Lectureship holder will be given to those who have specialized in children's disorders.

The appointment is from 1 October 1985 to 30 September 1986. The salary will be £14,500 per annum (plus pension) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review). Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 217, Reading RG6 2AH. Telephone 0734 607600 ext 220. Please reference AC 8520. Closing date 9 September 1985.

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## LECTURESHP IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

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## University of Swansea

## Lecturer

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the Department of Business Studies. The Department is a research unit in the Department of Language and Linguistics. The Lectureship holder will be given to those who have specialized in children's disorders.

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## University of Kent

## Lecturer in Electronic Engineering

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Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT, quoting reference number 119/43. Closing date for applications 28th August 1985.

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## FULHAM ESTATE AGENTS

£11,000

Fulham Estate Agents. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office. Salary £11,000 per annum (plus pension) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review). Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of London, London WC1E 6BT. Tel: 01-275 3511. Closing date 12 September 1985.

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## JUNIOR ADMIN SEC

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Junior Admin Sec. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office. Salary £7,500 per annum (plus pension) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review). Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of London, London WC1E 6BT. Tel: 01-275 3511. Closing date 12 September 1985.

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## TAKE A GAMBLE

£11,000

Take a Gamble. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office. Salary £11,000 per annum (plus pension) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review) plus £1,400 (under review). Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of London, London WC1E 6BT. Tel: 01-275 3511. Closing date 12 September 1985.

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## Move to curb the dole cheats

By Philip Webster  
Political Reporter

The Government is to mount a crackdown on people claiming unemployment benefit while secretly working.

As part of new measures to cut the jobsless total, believed by ministers to be artificially high in some areas, the network of social security fraud inspectors is likely to be increased by about 25 per cent.

More than 100 Department of Employment and Social Security investigators are expected to be appointed to join the existing 400-strong squad and their operations. Initially they are to be targeted at dole fraud in the south of England.

The move, in which the Prime Minister is taking a close interest, comes after the success of a recent drive against fraud in the Thames Valley area.

A large number of "moonlighters" were discovered, and the local jobsless total has apparently fallen as some have been registering for fear of being discovered.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, is expected to announce the moves over the next few weeks. They are being considered alongside proposals to cut the number of people regarded as being long-term unemployed, which the Government has failed to dent in spite of an increase in vacancies.

Teams of counsellors could be appointed to help people to fill the vacancies that exist, and they are likely to be offered facilities at Jobcentres, such as the use of telephones, to help them to find work.

Ministers believe the cost of appointing more dole fraud investigators will be more than offset by the amount saved in unemployment benefit and the effect on the jobsless total could be considerable in some areas.

The Government's plans were attacked last night by Mr John Prescott, Labour's employment spokesman, who said that they were aimed at making life more difficult for those on the dole through no fault of their own.

Mr Prescott said: "To increase the number of Civil Service snipers to harass the many millions dependent on social security and unemployment payments is a further example of the refusal of this Government to reverse its policies and return our people to work."

## Queen Mother braves the rain on birthday



Birthday greetings: the Queen Mother receiving bouquets from some of the 77 children who lined up in the rain to wish her well.

Continued from page 1

treasurer, Sir Ralph Anstruther, other Sandringham house guests and several policemen were recruited into the flower-bearing platoon in the Queen Mother's wake.

Three sisters each brought big bunches of pink and red roses, marigolds and pansies. "They stripped the garden for her," said their mother, Mrs Pat Nobes.

One little boy bowed low to present the Queen Mother with

his birthday card. She stopped with him for a moment to talk about the picture on the front. There were special words, too, for Jill Camfield from Camberley, Surrey, who was in a wheelchair. "Marvellous," the Queen Mother said as she presented her bouquet of cream and red roses.

There the Queen Mother and the Queen, dressed in primrose yellow and white, delighted the crowd by walking the quarter of a mile back to

Sandringham House. Princess Margaret, in turquoise, sheltered under an umbrella, but the Queen Mother kept her down as she led the procession, acknowledging greetings at every step.

She stopped briefly to speak to an Australian family who told her: "We think you are wonderful." "How kind," she murmured, as though no one had ever told her that before.

It was only when the Queen Mother entered the grounds of

Sandringham House that, with a final wave, she finally put her umbrella up.

Admirals had been queuing at Sandringham from six in the morning, five hours before the church service began.

The Queen Mother, the Queen and Princess Margaret began their day by taking Holy Communion privately, when the rector, the Reverend Gerry Murphy offered a special prayer for the health of the Queen Mother.

After the church service, the Queen Mother attended a champagne luncheon in Sandringham, the 274-room Jacobean-style mansion where her husband was born, and where he died in 1952.

Prince Charles joined the party yesterday afternoon bringing his own birthday present, a watercolour of Venice, the Queen Mother visited for the first time last autumn.

## Strike vote by S Africa miners

Continued from page 1

which the Chamber of Mines disputes. It reckons it has only 100,000 members out of a total black labour force in gold and coal mines of 550,000.

Mr Ramaphosa said yesterday that the union had 250,000 signed-up members, of whom 140,000 were fully paid-up and that it would urge its members to come out even at mines where it is not recognized.

He said the union was worried about the reaction of the employers and authorities and expected them to call in their own security units and police. A year ago, when the NUM called its first legal stoppage, 10 miners were killed when police were called in to striking mines. The NUM has

no strike funds but its leaders have met officials of the Mines' International Federation in Zimbabwe who have promised support.

The diplomatic exodus from South Africa got under way yesterday when the Australian and Dutch ambassadors flew home after being recalled for consultations within the next few weeks the remaining ambassadors of the EEC countries, including Mr Patrick Moberly, the British ambassador, will return to their capitals to prepare for a meeting on September 10 at which the EEC is to attempt to formulate anti-apartheid strategy.

In their daily "unrest report", the police gave details of only

three incidents in the previous 24 hours, the worst they said was one in which a black woman, aged 39, was set alight and seriously injured when she was attacked at her home in an Eastern Cape township. Earlier, they said, the stabbed and burned body of a man was found near a river in the Eastern Cape town of Cradock, bringing the total of unrest-related deaths since the state of emergency was declared to 23.

## Freedom swim

Stockholm (AP) — A Lithuanian asked for political asylum after swimming ashore from a Soviet trawler. Crew members caught his Soviet companion.

## Human error suspected in French rail disaster

Continued from page 1

Throughout yesterday relatives and friends arrived to try to identify often dismembered or carbonized corpses. The accident follows another three weeks ago in which a train crashed into a van blocked on the line at a level crossing in Pierrefeu-Vauvergne, derailed the front coaches and killing eight people.

M Henri Chadeau, president of the French railways system (SNCF), yesterday defended the railway's record when he said that between 1976 and 1984 only 12 people had died out of a total of 6,000 million passengers.

single-track, and some of those have no back-up systems to allow for human error.

Control system: A French television commentator said yesterday that the baton system used in Britain was formerly employed on French railways. A wooden baton was passed from driver to driver after he had passed down the single track.

No driver would have left a station without the baton, for if it was not waiting for him in the station it meant that a train was on its way.

## Today's events

**Royal engagements**  
The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member, attends a reception given by the Royal Ocean Racing Club at The Prospect, Cowes, 6.30; and later, as Admiral of the Royal Yacht Squadron, attends the Squadron Ball at the Castle, Cowes, 10.

**New exhibitions**  
La Photo, 10 years of the Sipa Press Agency: Still: The Scottish Photography Group Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 6; (ends Sept 7).

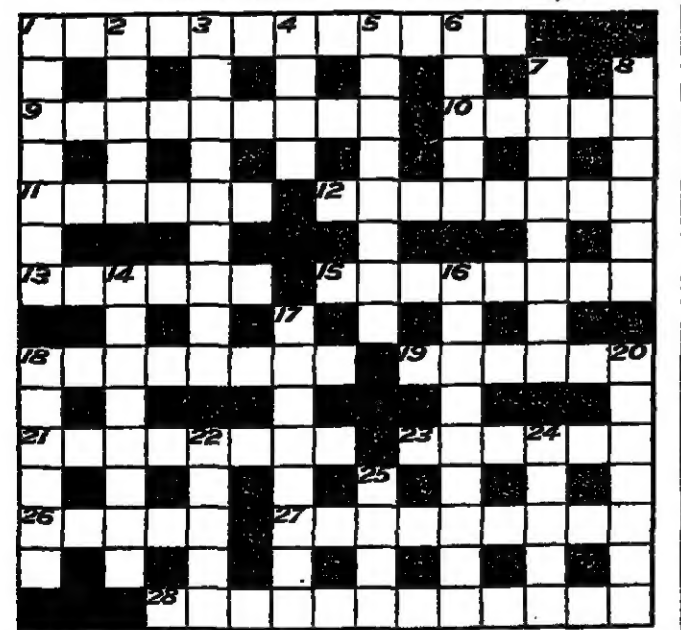
Photographs by Victor Sloan: Peacock Gallery, Pinebank House Arts Centre, Tullyally Road, Craigmiles, N Ireland: Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (ends Aug 30).

Old Leeds in pictures: Phillips Auction Galleries, East Parade, Leeds 1: Mon to Fri 10 to 5; (ends Aug 5).

The Richard Payne Hologram Collection: Ramage Library Gal: Mon to Wed 9.30 to 6; Thur to Sat 9.30 to 5; Fri 9.30 to 8 (ends Aug 5).

**Last chance to see**  
The Richard Payne Hologram Collection: Ramage Library Gal: Mon to Wed 9.30 to 6; Thur to Sat 9.30 to 5; Fri 9.30 to 8 (ends Aug 5).

## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,807



- ACROSS
- When depressed they speed up (12).
  - Cleaners for chrome with an abrasive (9).
  - Making old copper turn funny (5).
  - Gloomy face pulled about the senior NCO (6).
  - Issue old king with very new opener (8).
  - Things to be done requiring time and trouble (6).
  - Concerned with current affairs (8).
  - Part of the home that's barely used (8).
  - An ally may be disguised in Fred (6).
  - A picture painted in water colours (8).
  - Partnership in ice dance (3-3).
  - "Let such teach others who themselves—" (Pope) (5).
  - Steps indoors (9).
  - A dead done—how stupid—how stupid! (6-6).

- DOWN
- Song about an unsavoury character in Greece (7).
  - Many a girl is kind (5).
  - One who should be used to plain living (9).
  - Found a page? What a swindle! (4).
  - Plant-holders (8).
  - Field-work for a revolutionary article (5).
  - Keep causing a jam (8).
  - Health resort? (6).
  - Going in for charm (8).
  - Newly-formed orchestra with considerable drawing capacity (4-3).
  - Wrote music undisturbed (8).
  - Gamble involving an animal—a dog (6).
  - Numb daughter with no prospects of advancement (4-3).
  - It's a great fiddle! (5).
  - The vegetable's cold and undercooked (5).
  - Green material (4).

**The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 16,806 will appear next Saturday**

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Nature notes

Stonechairs are still feeding among the gorse on rocky coasts, though some will soon start drifting inland. They hunt themselves from a cliff-edge to a cliff-top, and then sharply in mid-air and land in a bush lower down.

Great tits are wandering afield and are often to be found near the coast. The gorse and heath. Young robins are still with their parents on wood heaths: they are spotted brown like young robins, but their short red tails tremble and flicker just like adults.

Foxglove is abundant. On the moorland, lower down it is found with rose-bay willow herb and red campion. In the West of England, the small white spires of wall pinks stand among their round leaves in shady lanes, and English stonecrop, with its starry white petals and red stems, grows among the rocks where the sheep feed.

The North M62: Contrail, and resurfacing between junctions 32 (A470) and 33 (A4232) S. Glamorgan, M5: outside lane only open northbound at junction 25 (Taunton), Somerset; A38: lanes closed at Voss Farm, North Devon; Plymouth viaduct, Marsh Mills.

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Information supplied by the AA

### Roads

London and south coast: M1: nearside lane closed off for several hundred yards on southbound carriageway S of junction 6 (A412) Walsley, A323, closed for seven days between King's Road and Reading Road at Aldershot Road, Fleet, A12: resurfacing and lane closures on the northbound carriageway of the London-Yarmouth trunk road at Ferring, Essex.

Middlesex: M5: roadworks between exit 4 (Bromsgrove) to near junction 8 (M50 turn off), Hereford and Worcester; A38: Contrail, near Ripley, Derbyshire; A5: Single lane traffic near Tamworth, Staffordshire.

Wales and the west: M4: Lanes closed on both carriageways between junctions 32 (A470) and 33 (A4232) S. Glamorgan, M5: outside lane only open northbound at junction 25 (Taunton), Somerset; A38: lanes closed at Voss Farm, North Devon; Plymouth viaduct, Marsh Mills.

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Information supplied by the AA

## Weather forecast

A vigorous depression expected over the Irish Sea at 6am will move NE towards Norway, with a strong air-mass covering most districts during the day.

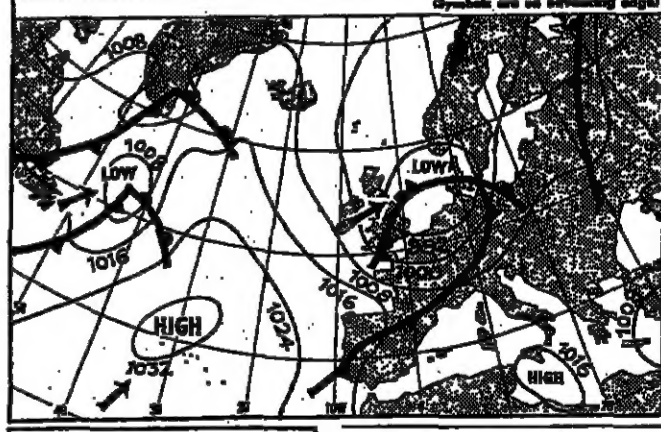
(6am to midnight)  
London, SE, Central S, Central N, England, Midlands, Wales, SW, NW, Scotland, N, Ireland: Rain at first, soon becoming brighter with heavy showers. Wind NW strong, locally gale in exposed districts; max temp 17C (63F).

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## NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars



High tide: 12.00, 6.00, 12.00, 6.00. Low tide: 1.00, 7.00, 1.00, 7.00. Wind: NW, strong, locally gale in exposed districts. Rain at first, soon becoming brighter with heavy showers. Wind NW strong, locally gale in exposed districts; max temp 17C (63F).

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